The National
Future Farmer
December - January, 74 - 75
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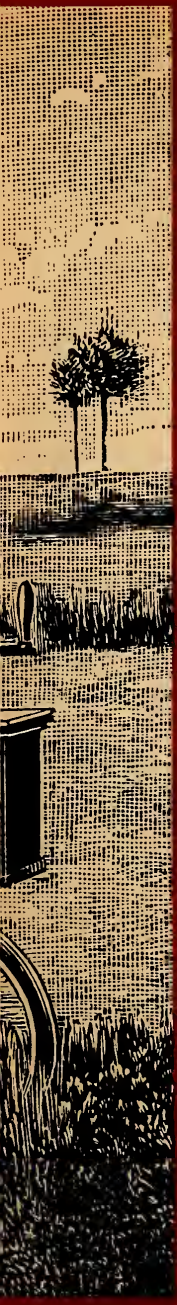
Internationa



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The National
Future Farmer
Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America

Volume 23 Number 2
December-January, 1974-75

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A Word With The Editor

FFA's Finest Hour

FFA may have enjoyed it's "finest hour" on October 15 when President Ford addressed the National FFA Convention on national television. Never before had FFA been on such public display. Never before had FFA been taken right into the living room of so many millions of Americans. Never before had a national FFA president spoken to so many people as did Mark Mayfield in the brief moments he used to introduce President Ford.

How did the public react? No doubt you have heard comments in your own home town. I know I have heard quite a few myself. But none were more complimentary than the following excerpt from a letter written to President Ford at the White House after the convention with a copy to the FFA. The letter was from Jane Marie Murray of West Palm Beach, Florida, who said:

"I feel compelled to express to you the sheer delight and overwhelming pride which I received while viewing your audience that evening, to-wit: that handsome group of American youth, the Future Farmers of America. I honestly cannot remember when I last saw that many outstanding young people in one gathering! It was such a pleasure, and I only wish you might have made mention of the same at that time because I feel such a group deserves quite a round of applause. Each and every one presented the clean-cut, intelligent, alert, eager, and conscientious appearance the "model" young American citizen should project."

FFA has quite a challenge to live up to this reputation. But it is a part of the proud heritage of every Greenhand who joins the ranks of FFA this year. As a member you should do your part to maintain the good name of the FFA by dressing and conducting yourself properly. Maybe this is something your chapter should discuss at its next meeting.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

The role of the agriculture teacher in the FFA is one of major importance. His advice and presence is often the source of inspiration and direction especially for beginning FFA members. That relationship is strengthened through the years of classes and activities. Many times an ag teacher's influence will affect a student long after his high school days. Today the need for qualified teachers is strong as student interest grows and programs expand. In various states actual shortages of agriculture teachers are a serious problem. The story on page 29 explores career possibilities in the ag teaching field for FFA members of today.

The cover photo shows Mr. Robert DeLauder, an agriculture teacher from Damascus, Maryland, with a student.

Cover photo by Gary Bye

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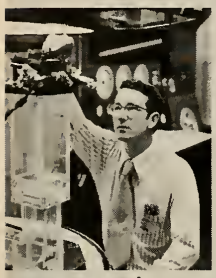
For this GM Researcher the sky is the limit.

The conservation of energy is a very important problem today, and David Harrington's studies at the GM Technical Center's Research Laboratories could have far-reaching implications for us all. His research projects on fuel/air metering and mixing are directed at improving both fuel economy and emissions.



Dave's investigations into methods of obtaining more accurate metering of fuel/air mixtures led him to develop a computer simulation of the fuel and air flow into carburetors. This research tool helps engineers obtain answers to many complex carburetion problems in seconds.

Dave's work sounds complicated, and it is. His research is a significant extension of his studies at the University of Michigan where he received his doctorate in Mechanical Engineering.

At night, Dave puts the same energy into his hobby, which is astronomy. It took him two years to build his own 16" telescope, but his own design allows for all the operating features he wanted for photographing star fields, craters on the moon, planets and eclipses.

Dave's consuming interest in astrophotography has led him from the Gaspé Peninsula in Canada to Senegal in Africa where, in 1973, he photographed the total eclipse of the sun.

Dave has distinguished himself in both his career and his hobby. The quality of his astrophotography speaks for itself in the photo reprinted here, and the excellence of his technical papers on the flow of fluids has won him two national awards from the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Dave is a fine example of the interesting people who find their careers at General Motors.

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Looking Ahead

Agriculture

COLLEGE AG STUDENTS INCREASE—Enrollment in the nation's agricultural schools has more than doubled in the past decade, rising from 34,952 enrollees to 72,644 last fall. Women students, once a rarity, now make up 20 percent of the enrollment nationwide.

FARM INCOME TO FALL—Farmers' incomes have continued to swing widely this past year after climbing from $17.5 billion in 1972 to $32.2 billion in 1973. Realized net farm income may drop over $5 billion in 1974. Although $6 billion will be added to gross farm income, rising costs of $12 billion for fuel, fertilizer, and feed prices will cause net farm incomes to go down.

FARM POPULATION STABILIZING—The U.S. farm population appears to be stabilizing. The latest figures show a decline of only .8 percent from 1970-73, compared with a 4.8 percent average annual decline in the 1960's. There are currently 9.5 million people living on farms.

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS IS COMING—The census of agriculture which is taken every five years is scheduled to be mailed in early January. Farmers and ranchers will be asked about their agricultural operations this year. Publication of 1974 farm census results is scheduled to begin in the late fall of 1975.

COTTONSEED FLOUR—A new protein-packed flour from cottonseed will be on the market soon. In concentrate form it will contain 65 percent protein, roughly the same as soybean products. It is meant to fortify bakery goods and snack foods. Also as a meat extender, cottonseed flour will compete primarily with soy protein, not so much with wheat flour.

PROPOSED BEEF GRADE CHANGES—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a proposal to revise the U.S. standards for grades of beef. The changes call for elimination of carcass conformation as a measure of quality, establish constant marbling requirements, and make yield grading of carcasses a mandatory procedure.

STATES FREE OF HOG CHOLERA—A national battle to eradicate hog cholera achieved a major victory when Texas became the fiftieth state to reach hog cholera-free status. In 1972 the Secretary of Agriculture declared hog cholera a national emergency, when six states had reported outbreaks of the disease.

PESTICIDE USER LICENSING COMING—By October, 1976, any person who wants to buy certain restricted pesticides will have to be certified and licensed. This applies to farmers as well as commercial pesticide applicators, as provided by the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will classify pesticides into two groups; general use and restricted. The general use ones can be purchased and used by the general public. Restricted use pesticides are those that generally cause adverse effects on the environment, including injury to the applicator. For those purchasing the restricted chemicals there will be two classes of applicators; private and commercial. Private applicators will be farmers or their employees who use the chemical on their own land.

FARM EQUIPMENT SCARCE—Farmers will probably find new farm equipment scarce again in 1975. That estimate has emerged from industry leaders of farm and industrial equipment. As world food demand has grown and farm prices have increased, demand for new farm equipment during the past two years has exceeded the industry's capacity to produce it and inventories of new farm equipment have been depleted.

Avoiding anxieties.

Lloyd Nygard used to be a high school vocational agriculture teacher. But today he devotes full time to his fine cattle and grain farm near Minot, North Dakota. And puts into practice what he taught over 20 years ago. Example: "You'd be surprised how many anxieties you can get during the critical work season. Especially if you're sitting on a tractor or in a truck and have to wonder if you're going to get to the other end or not. But if you've put your equipment in shape *before* that season, it's really a pleasure to sit there knowing it's going to take off."

Helping Lloyd take off dependably are Champion spark plugs. In equipment made by Ford, IH, Massey-Ferguson, New Holland, John Deere, and Pontiac. "As long as a brand serves me well, I go back to it." Champion. World's No. 1 seller.

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News in Brief

The FFA

FFA CONVENTION IN NOVEMBER—The 1975 National FFA Convention has been set for November 11-14. The change from the traditional October date was made to coincide with the American Royal Horse Show and Livestock Exposition which was rescheduled for November.

FFA DUES INCREASE—The delegate body of the 1974 FFA National Convention voted to increase national dues by 50 cents to $1.50 per member. The increase was called for to cover rising costs of the FFA program. It is the first such increase since 1968. The increase will take effect in 1975.

FFA REGIONS CHANGE—Another legislative change by National Convention delegates was the realigning and renaming of the four regions of the National Organization. Three states were added to the North Atlantic Region which was renamed the Eastern Region. The Pacific Region was renamed the Western Region and two states were added. (See convention story.)

FOUNDATION EXCEEDS GOAL—According to Mr. Bob Walston, the 1974 Chairman of the Foundation Sponsoring Committee, the National FFA Foundation, Inc. has exceeded its goal of $554,000 for 1974. As of the National Convention, cash and pledges for 1974 total $569,000, a new record in Foundation contributions.

FFA PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE—Two vocational agriculture educators from South America are participating in professional exchange with the FFA. Bernardo Romero, Columbia, is being hosted by the New Mexico FFA Association and the Iowa Association will be the host for Roberto Casarotte of Brazil.

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION—Now your chapter can obtain its own set of slides and tapes documenting the sights and sounds of the National FFA Convention. The 15-minute program combines 45 slides and a cassette tape narration documenting the event. Order from the National FFA Supply Service.

IN MEMORIAM

Sadly we report the death of Mr. V. Stanley Allen, the only member of the original FFA magazine staff who was still employed by the FFA. Mr. Allen joined *The National FUTURE FARMER* in the summer of 1952 before the first issue was published, coming from the FFA Supply Service.

Mr. Allen was the magazine's first Circulation Manager and also handled the duties of bookkeeper. Later he became Business Manager but retained his duties for circulation. He perhaps was best known for his insistance that FFA receive full value for every dollar spent and in this way provided FFA members with a much better magazine. A sports enthusiast himself, Mr. Allen for many years wrote "Sportrait," one of the most popular features to ever appear in the FFA magazine. In 1962, he was awarded the Honorary American Farmer degree by the FFA.

When the FFA was reorganized administratively in 1971, Mr. Allen was asked to assume the duties of Controller. At the same time, he continued his circulation duties for the magazine.

Mr. Allen had been in failing health in recent months.

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From the Mailbag

Readers Report

Alstead, New Hampshire

I thought you might be interested as we have two sons, one almost 16 and one just turned 17. The older one is vice president in the Fall Mt. Regional Chapter. They are active in horsemanship, raise and show Brown Swiss cattle, and are on judging teams. What I'm writing you about is they each receive a copy of the FFA magazine. We send one to our local library. Perhaps we have or will influence some other boy or girl in this good direction. We save the other one.

For myself I appreciate your articles but your magazine has the best joke page of any I have ever read.

Mrs. M. Nelson

I have thought about your Mystery Crash article in the August-September issue and it makes a lot of sense. There are lots of hidden causes of accidents and I'm still trying to figure out a wreck I had. I know from experience that you can't drink and drive because you can't think straight and you get brave and tend to show off. The best thing to do is to lie there and sleep it off or you'll end up in heaven, hell or if you're lucky, jail!

This honest and forthright letter sent by an FFA member might mean you'll drive safer. We've left off the author's name and address.—Ed.

Northwood, North Dakota

Will you please send me one Future Farmer magazine holder (holds 18 issues). I am enclosing a check for $3.00.

Dennis E. McCoy

Bloomfield, Nebraska

I'm publicity chairperson of the Future Homemakers of America. I would like to add some facts to an item in your last magazine. It reads as follows: "New signs on outskirts of Bloomfield, Nebraska, welcoming folks to town are courtesy of FFA."

Our FHA chapter put in many hours of work for these signs to "welcome folks." I think the FHA deserve some of the credit.

Terry Mlady

Hats off to the cooperative effort.—Ed.

Emerson, Arkansas

Thank you for calling upon me to evaluate *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. I have enjoyed reading it for my four years in the FFA.

I am very interested in agriculture and the FFA so I enjoyed all of your articles concerning livestock, crops, wildlife, and especially about what other members are doing.

You do a great job of getting a lot of variety in the magazine and by getting articles from different parts of the country. *The National FUTURE FARMER* has something in it for everyone, from educational articles to laughter.

Once again, thanks for calling on me and keep up the good work.

Bruce Maloch
State FFA President

Suffolk, Virginia

I was very pleased you wanted my opinion on *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. I enjoy reading it. You could make one improvement. It would be great if you advertised various types of tractors and implements. I remember one issue you had that kind of advertisement. My fellow members enjoyed it too.

Randy Halland

Norfolk, Virginia

I will soon retire from the U.S. Navy and will return to my farm. I want to learn how to repair my own machinery I will be using to grow, protect and harvest soft fruit, potatoes, wheat, barley and sugar beets.

Any help you can give me will be appreciated.

It has been over 20 years since I farmed for a living, so I know I have a lot of homework to do.

James T. Davis

Omaha, Nebraska

I am a member of a ninth grade agribusiness class.

Some of us plan to join FFA next month. My teacher, Mr. McReynolds, is one of the advisors.

Here at Bryan Junior there are nearly a hundred ninth grade agribusiness students who would like to compare notes with other first year agriculture students. We plan to correspond with other Nebraska ninth graders but would also like contacts with other people in different parts of the U.S.

Liz Poehling

Alexander City, Alabama

Would you please publish the enclosed poem written by ninth grade FFA member Daniel Jones, entitled "Youth With A Purpose."

Jerome Campbell
Advisor

Here's Daniel's poem.—Ed.

To be a youth with purpose in my theme.
A top-notch FFA record is my dream.
I want to climb up the ladder each day
And make my agribusiness training pay.
There are many nobodies walking and preaching,
But the dedicated FFA'er is working and reaching.
Some sow wild oats, some raise cane,
While the FFA member builds a tomorrow lane
Where he will be a contributor and a man
Never idle, the FFA'er activates his plan.
He's got a mission; he knows where he's going,
Wherever he goes, his goodness is showing.
These are the strong hands—the real "Me" powers.
These are the providers—the anchors and towers.
Purposeful youth is a creditable way
Of insuring tomorrow through the FFA.

The Justin Hall Of Fame

Justin's new Sea Turtle boot, available in chocolate, honey or black, in a variety of toe styles.

America's most famous Western sculpture, James Earle Fraser's "End of the Trail," can be seen at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center in Oklahoma City.

The Hall acquired the statue in 1968 and completely restored it after fifty years of exposure to the elements and several attempts at repair while on display near Visalia, California.

This great figure of a defeated Indian warrior slumped over his gaunt pony was first conceived in 1894, fifteen years after the Justin Company was founded.

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95 Years Of Quality

The 47th National FFA Convention offered many attractions including the President of the United States. President Ford is shown receiving the Honorary American Farmer Degree from Mark Mayfield, national FFA president. Delegates from each state conducted several important business sessions (opposite left) while other FFA'ers took in the convention highlights, (bottom left). Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Earl Butz spoke to delegates during the convention session and is shown with the Star Farmer of America Vernon Rohrscheib, left, and Star Agribusinessman Ron Schwerdtfeger.

The 47th National Convention

The Biggest and the Best!

That was the opinion of many who attended this year's FFA meeting held at Kansas City.

AS FFA State Presidents from across the nation quickly filed onto the stage at Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium an aura of excitement filled the auditorium. News photographers readied their cameras and recorders and television crews zeroed in for the big moment.

This was the kickoff session of the National FFA Convention and the guest speaker was President Gerald Ford.

The President had chosen their convention to make a major address on the economy. The speech which elaborated on his WIN (Whip Inflation Now) campaign was broadcast live to millions of American television viewers.

This impressive beginning was only the start of a convention week that was praised by many as being the biggest and best National FFA Convention ever held.

(Continued on Page 14)

Winner of the National FFA Public Speaking Contest was Randy Harris of Clovis, New Mexico, (upper right). Convention organist Nancy Fairless (right) from Tennessee entertained audiences throughout the convention. The Agricultural Career Show (below) attracted thousands of spectators.

The National Agricultural Mechanics Contest tested FFA member's ability and knowledge in various skill areas.

National Convention

(Continued from Page 13)

The convention which was the forty-seventh meeting of FFA members in Kansas City was attended by a record 17,422 members, advisors, and guests. The first session was called to order by the National FFA Officer team headed by Mark Mayfield on October 15 and the week's activities ended October 19 as the newly elected National Officer team and President Alpha Trivette led the American Royal Parade through the streets of downtown Kansas City.

Enhanced by the FFA Week theme "A Chance For Growth", the convention sessions were observed by packed audiences as the program moved briskly through the business of the convention.

Ford's speech got the convention off and running. Speaking to a capacity crowd the President borrowed from the FFA Creed in asking Future Farmers to have confidence in themselves, our government, and our free competitive society.

"It is my observation and view that the American people are hungry for some tough stuff to chew on in this (inflation) crisis," the President said. "I don't know of any better place to look to the future of America than right here in the 13,000 faces of the Future Farmers of America," the President added.

Following the President's speech on inflation, FFA President Mark Mayfield awarded him the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Later that evening the officer team offered their inspiring vesper service. Each officer expressed his thoughts on separate human emotions such as experiencing, feeling, understanding, changing, growing, and life today. The 100-member National FFA Chorus and the 100-member National FFA Band complimented the ceremony.

The important tone of the convention continued throughout the week. Another guest speaker at the convention, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, titled his remarks in the form of a challenge. "Become Hunger Fighters," the secretary said. "It is estimated that in the next 25 years the world's population will increase another three billion people. Those 25 years will be the most productive period in your lives. The challenge that faces the next generation is to learn how to feed as many more

Years of hard work in the FFA is represented by this group as they prepare to go on stage for their American Farmer and American Agribusinessman degrees.

people in the next generation as we have learned to feed since the dawn of history. I'm counting on you to get the job done," he added.

Other guest speakers included Baltimore Oriole baseball star Brooks Robinson; Dr. William Pierce of the U.S. Office of Education; and President of Allied Mills, Donald Staheli.

Celebrity spokesmen weren't the only public speakers at the convention. Elaborating on a topic in line with present world concern was Public Speaking Winner Randy Harris of Clovis, New Mexico, who delivered a winning speech entitled "The Coming Famine." Expressing grave concern for water conservation, Harris' speech dealt with ways and means of conserving and transporting water to irrigate crops.

Thursday evening offered another high point in convention proceedings. With flashbulbs popping and to a thunderous applause two young men were named the outstanding individual American Farmer and Agribusinessman of America. A 20-year-old custom harvester, Vernon L. Rohrscheib of Fairmont, Illinois, was named Star Agribusinessman and Ronald D. Schwerdtfeger, also 20 years old, was named Star Farmer for his interest in a 900-acre farm. These two top individuals were selected from among the 643 American Farmer degree winners who were honored earlier in the session.

Activities were also fast-paced outside of the main convention arena. Judging teams from each of the 50 states met on Wednesday and Thursday for national competition in each of seven contests. A new contest, ornamental horticulture was held for the first time reflecting this growing segment of the FFA program. Teams from California met with noted success, winning first place in the Livestock and Dairy competition and placing second in the Horticulture, Agricultural Mechanics, and Milk and Dairy Foods Contests. Other first place awards went to Kansas in Poultry, Oklahoma in Meats, Minnesota in Agricultural Mechanics, Wisconsin in Horticulture and Missouri in Milk Quality and Dairy Foods. In total 262 teams in all areas of competition competed for awards.

All was not gold and glitter at the convention but there was plenty of it in evidence as 72 regional and 18 national proficiency award winners were named. Each of the winning projects was illustrated by a slide presentation.

The National Citation in Building Our American Communities program was presented to the Santa Fe "Senior" FFA Chapter of Alachua, Florida. The award was presented by Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development Dr. James Bostic. The award came as a result of community landscaping and beautification efforts at the local land fill, an historic cemetary, and the new city hall. The chapter received a check for $250.

Awards were also given for chapter safety and overall chapter accomplishment.

Adults were given much deserved recognition by the FFA throughout the convention. Distinguished Service Awards, Honorary American Farmer degrees and VIP citations were given to teachers, government officials, and businessmen for outstanding service and leadership.

Singled out for special recognition were the 12,000 plus ag teachers in the United States. A "Tribute to the Ag Teacher" slide service was presented and remarks followed by Mr. Bill Harrison, president of the National Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers. "We are proud of our role as ag teachers because of the accomplishments of our students in ou vocational agriculture classes and the FFA," he said. He also asked the FFA members present to consider a career in teaching vocational agriculture.

The business sessions of the conven-

(Continued on Page 16)

Honoring those who have made outstanding contributions to the FFA gives members a chance to say thank you.

Eighteen members stepped on to the stage and into the spotlight as the new national proficiency award winners.

Identifying meat cuts was one segment of the National FFA Meats Contest held in conjunction with the convention.

FFA Livestock judging teams from 43 states met in national competition held at the American Royal Livestock Arena.

Reviewing the passing parade were American Royal Queen, National FFA presidents, and Star American Farmers.

Leading the American Royal Parade through the streets of downtown Kansas City were newly elected national officers.

National Convention

(Continued from Page 15)

tion in which 116 student delegates took part was the focus of several hotly debated issues. High on the list for consideration was an increase in annual dues for FFA members. The motion passed to increase annual FFA national dues to $1.50. Another significant item which was passed by the delegation was the redesigning and renaming of the four regions of the National FFA Organization. North Carolina, Virginia, and Ohio were added to the North Atlantic Region which was renamed the Eastern Region. Oklahoma and Texas were added to the former Pacific Region and it was renamed the Western Region. Other regions retained their names. Reapportionment of the number of official delegates from each state was hotly debated but failed to pass. A constitutional change was made to allow states to select up to three percent of their membership for the State Farmer degree. In addition to the floor activity each official delegate served on one of 15 committees which met to make recommendations regarding national organizational programs and activities.

Fred McClure National FFA Secretary makes award presentation to the convention stenographer, Mrs. Donna Dunwoody, who served for over a decade.

FFA members who were not directly involved in convention proceedings or contests found plenty of sights and sounds to fill their week. They travelled on educational tours to many points of interest in and around Kansas City. A career show illustrating the various areas of agricultural employment also attracted the attention of the FFA members. The show boasted a variety of highly decorated booths and exhibits. Many were manned by experts in their respective fields.

The week-long American Royal Horse Show and Livestock Exposition lured many blue-jacketed members to its programs of entertainment and exhibits. Johnny Rodriguez, famed country and western singer, was one major attraction of the show. Hundreds of beef, sheep, and swine posed for judging officials during the week. Highlighting the Royal activities was dedication ceremonies for the new Crosby-Kemper Memorial Arena.

The final send-off for the 14,000 members and guests in attendance at the final session was the famous Firestone show, a variety show sponsored by Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. The show featured over an hour of top-notch entertainment climaxed by a country rock group named The Shoppe.

Early Saturday morning the remaining FFA members watched as the American Royal Parade marched under clear skies through downtown Kansas City. Receptive crowds greeted the parade, led by the new National Officers and the FFA Band. The 100-piece band marching unit, together for less than a week set the cadence for the remaining floats, horses, and beauty queens. As the parade passed in review for past president Mark and new president Alpha it marked the conclusion of a very successful convention. The biggest and perhaps the best.

A country rock group called The Shoppe livened the auditorium with songs as part of the Firestone Show.

Baseball star Brooks Robinson served as celebrity spokesman for one convention session.

Dr. William Pierce of the U.S. Office of Education addressed the audience at the convention.

The FFA Chapter started most of the plants used for landscaping city hall.

Even some construction flaws had to be corrected by members before planting.

It was hard work for the members, but everyone learned from his experience.

BOAC Winner

Working Together Pays Off

Jeff Means, left, with past advisor Bud Riviere, accepting the National Citation from Dr. James Bostic, USDA head for rural development, on right.

JEFF Means is president of the 142-member Santa Fe "Senior" Chapter in Alachua, Florida.

He is proud of the hard work of his fellow members and the cooperative spirit in the chapter. Advisor Larry Reese is too. They deserve to be.

Last month Santa Fe "Senior" was awarded the National Citation—highest award in the FFA Building Our American Communities (BOAC) program. Jeff accepted the Citation on the stage during the National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

According to Jeff, the chapter had as its original goals "to instill community pride and to offer students 'hands on' experience in landscaping."

Well, they got plenty of experience all right.

The BOAC winning chapter earned its recognition as a result of community landscaping and beautification efforts at the local landfill, an historic cemetery, and the new city hall.

Jeff's BOAC committee chairman was Chuck Clemons. It takes many hands to lead the group through such an extensive project. And the chapter received helping hands from a number of other civic groups too, which made the job possible.

To achieve their objectives the chapter carried out three major activities. The first involved chapter members in a cooperative effort with the local Lions Club to restore the Newmansville Cemetery, an historic state landmark in the community. Chapter members worked closely with the Lions members to clear overgrowth in the cemetery and restore the grounds to their original beauty.

A second project involved planting a border of ornamentals around the recently created Alachua landfill to help conceal the landfill area from surrounding areas. This was a huge project and has taken two years to complete. The fill's 280 acres and 1,500 plants were put down in the fall and winter of 1972-73. More plants were needed to replace losses and larger sized trees were also added in 1974 to help cover the sight.

A third project involved members in landscaping the recently constructed Alachua municipal complex—a project that gave horticulture, nursery operations, and landscape management students a firsthand learning experience and saved the city several thousand dollars.

A major thrust of Santa Fe's work in 1974 was the municipal building landscape work. Because of their previously successful record—including 1972 recognition by their governor for BOAC, and participation in Beautification Week work, as well as a very successful plants sale for the community—towns folks and city council members asked the FFA to help with the task of completing the new city hall.

A newspaper editorial suggested why couldn't our "local experts" provide the entire service from scratch?

A master plan was developed for FFA by a professional. The city officials financed materials. Plants and shrubs were started by students in their greenhouses. Trees came from nurseries. The chapter seeded the outer landscape with grass which saved considerable funds alone compared to cost for sod.

The chapter's outstanding work in these three projects prompted the president of the local woman's club and a member of the city commissioners to ask the chapter if it would be interested in further beautifying the community by planting a row of trees along the main street in 1975.

Santa Fe "Senior" FFA Chapter was one of four regional winners in the BOAC Program. The other three chapters were: Eatonville FFA Chapter, Eatonville, Washington, (assisted in the development of a wilderness park and wildlife preserve now named the Northwest Trek); Hastings FFA Chapter, Hastings, Michigan, (renovated facilities and buildings at the county fairgrounds); and the Shady Spring FFA Chapter, Shady Spring, West Virginia, (helped establish a local fire department).

The BOAC program is an effort by the FFA to get its members in activities to improve job opportunities and living conditions in rural communities. The Farmers Home Administration is providing technical assistance in the form of classroom materials on rural development. Lilly Endowment, Inc., of Indianapolis, Indiana, is providing awards and additional funds to help offset administrative expenses through the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

Each chapter involved in a worthwhile project can be recognized by the BOAC program. Competition begins at area levels and climaxes with the selection of a national winner.

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS
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LANCE CORPORAL
R. N. HOLT
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We're different because of something we feel: a fierce pride.

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Alpha Trivette
National President

Scott McKain
National Secretary

Gary Kelley, North
Atlantic Vice President

Peter Giacomini
Pacific Vice President

Bart Brashears
Southern Vice President

Gerrit DeBruin
Central Vice President

Alpha E. Trivette, 19, from Ladysmith, Virginia, worked for the last three years as a maintenance and repairman for a service center specializing in small gasoline engines. Alpha served as secretary and president of the Ladysmith FFA Chapter and was president of the Virginia FFA Association in 1973-74. He was captain of the Ladysmith baseball team, co-captain of the basketball team, and was a delegate to Virginia Boys State. An honor graduate from high school, Alpha plans to enter college and major in agricultural education.

Gary W. Kelley, 20, of Ripley, West Virginia, has 50 percent ownership in 53 head of beef, 40 acres of corn and 50 acres of hay. He served first as secretary and president of the Ripley FFA Chapter then was secretary and president of the West Virginia Association. He won the State Public Speaking Contest in 1972. In high school Gary was on the track team and served on West Virginia Hall of Fame Committee and Rural Economic-Environmental Committee. He was enrolled in West Virginia University when elected.

Scott McKain, 20, is an agribusiness student from Crothersville, Indiana. Scott keeps a small beef herd but his main agricultural experience is radio broadcasting. He has been employed by radio station WMPI since 1969, first as an announcer then as farm news director. Scott has become well known throughout the agricultural community as the voice of local agriculture. He has served in various FFA positions including Indiana president and was in honor society and three times a class officer while in high school.

Peter D. Giacomini, 19, from Ferndale, California, served as state president after terms as chapter and area leader. Pete's Guernsey herd of 36 heifers and cows is housed on his parents' Clover Jack farm. He trades labor for facilities and equipment. He was a member of chapter's parliamentary procedure team that won up to state level and also judged in national FFA dairy cattle contest. Pete was an honor student in high school plus being active in student government. He plans to return to dairy farming after college.

Gerrit DeBruin, 20, from Monroe, Wisconsin, began his supervised experience program with three Brown Swiss cows and built his herd to 12 animals. A past president of the Wisconsin FFA Association, Gerrit served as chapter secretary and president. In 1972 he was a member of Wisconsin's dairy judging team that placed fourth in the national FFA contest. In high school Gerrit was president of student council, worked on newspaper staff and was valedictorian. He is majoring in dairy science at University of Wisconsin.

Bart Brashears, 20, of Alex, Oklahoma, has a beef operation besides helping in family custom harvest and trucking businesses. He has worked as trainee for USDA Ag Research Service, a local bank, and Farmland Industries. He served as president of his chapter and Oklahoma FFA Association and won public speaking contests up through state levels. Bart was in high school honor society, was editor of newspaper and was on football and track teams. He is an agricultural economics major at Oklahoma State University.

Know Your Sponsors

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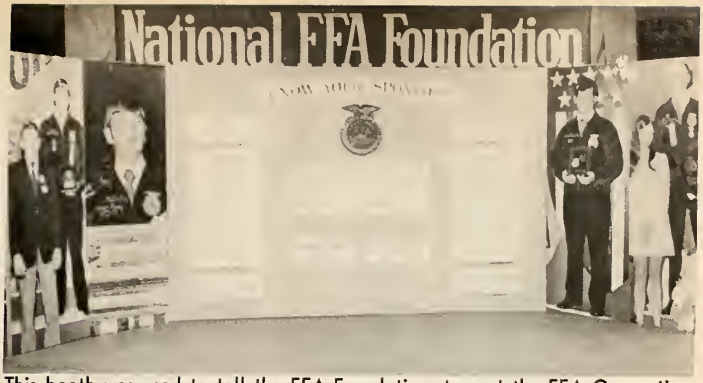

This booth was used to tell the FFA Foundation story at the FFA Convention.

The FFA Foundation

Stimulating FFA members to work and study harder.

SINCE 1944, the National FFA Foundation has provided incentive awards for FFA members. Today the Foundation continues to motivate students of vocational agriculture to greater achievements with an expanded program to meeting the needs of a changing agriculture.

The Sponsoring Committee, under the leadership of its chairman, has the primary responsibility of raising funds for this incentive awards program for FFA. A goal of $625,000 has been set for 1975. At the present time nearly 1,400 business and industrial companies, organizations, and individuals make annual contributions to support the FFA Foundation program.

An 18-member Board of Trustees has the responsibility of administering the funds raised by the Sponsors. They approve contests, awards, and special projects after they are recommended for funding by the FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Officers. Those who serve as Trustees include sponsors, vocational agricultural teachers, teacher educators, state supervisors, state FFA executive secretaries, and U.S. Office of Education officials who have responsibility for agricultural education.

Award programs of the FFA which are sponsored by the National FFA Foundation include 19 agricultural proficiency awards, public speaking, national chapter awards, national chapter safety, Building Our American Communities, six national contests, establishment in agricultural awards, star farmer and star agribusinessman of America, and state initiated programs for improving agricultural leadership.

Working closely with the Foundation Sponsors in their efforts to raise funds are Messrs. Don McDowell, executive director of the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, and Dennis Sargent, assistant director.

Mr. Carter

New Chairman Sponsoring Committee

Mr. Edward F. Carter, executive vice president and a director of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, has been named 1975 Chairman of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee. As chairman, Mr. Carter's primary responsibility will be to organize and coordinate an effort to contact potential FFA Foundation sponsors during the coming year.

Mr. Carter was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a graduate of St. Louis University with a bachelor of science degree in marketing. He joined Firestone in 1950 and has held a number of positions with the company in the United States and Canada. In 1970 he was elected to the board of directors and in 1971 was elected to his present position of executive vice president.

The Presidents Challenge

INFLATION, the word pops up numerous times each day. Its causes and cures are discussed, debated and argued. And its effects have enveloped almost every American citizen. Inflation and the fight against it were the focus of the opening session of the National FFA Convention. President Gerald Ford spoke to a packed audience of FFA convention participants and a national television audience. The crowded auditorium listened intently to his suggestion for voluntary action to fight inflation and his appeal to WIN (Whip Inflation Now).

Even before the Kansas City appearance the Ford administration had called on the FFA to involve itself in the fight against inflation. Past National FFA President Mark Mayfield attended both the Agricultural and Food Conference on Inflation at Chicago and the Inflation Summit Conference at Washington, D.C., held in September.

Mayfield who was the youngest member of the summit delegation said of the Chicago conference, "It was an awareness meeting more than anything else. I really didn't feel qualified to talk policy or legislation and since we are a non-political organization I tried to stay that way. What I did was talk about the individual aspects of inflation."

In the six page paper presented at Chicago, Mayfield made the following personal observations. "There is no sole cause of inflation. It cannot be entirely blamed on the government, the rich corporations, the politicians, or even the farmer. In this writer's opinion the main causes of inflation lie within the American's mind. Selfishness, carelessness, helplessness, and apathy have contributed as much as any to kindling the fire of inflation."

In his Kansas City speech, President Ford seemed to stress similar beliefs. Speaking to the young crowd he said, "I need help from young Americans all over this great land. The creative energy and the enthusiasm of youth in my judgement is a sure guarantee of winning."

The speech seemed to spark the enthusiasm of many FFA members as reflected in the following resolution, submitted by the Fowler, Kansas, FFA Chapter.

Speaking in more specific terms the President outlined the following voluntary measures to fight inflation.

1. bring budgeting back in style
2. learn how to use credit wisely
3. save as much as you can and watch your money grow
4. conserve energy, save on fuel and take pressure off scarce supplies
5. don't raise prices or wages more than cost or services absolutely require
6. insist on productivity improvements where you work
7. economize fashionably—shop wisely, look for bargains
8. work with others to eliminate outmoded regulations
9. do it yourself. Plant WIN gardens for yourself or within your community
10. assist in recycling programs and the reuse of scrap metals
11. waste less in every way
12. guard your health

The President's challenge to FFA and all America is to WIN. If your chapter has accepted the challenge with a specific plan of action or if you have some personal ideas we'd like to hear from you. Share your ideas by sending them to: WIN, *The National FUTURE FARMER*, Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

Future Farmers of America

THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

October 16, 1974

Fowler Chapter
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA
Fowler, Kansas 67844

RESOLUTIONS

1. WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America, Mr. Gerald Ford, did an exceptionally fine job in addressing the 47th Annual Convention of Future Farmers of America in Kansas City, October 15.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that he be congratulated and thanked for a job well done.

2. WHEREAS, the twelve recommendations to fight inflation and to conserve energy read by the President has merit and deserves much thought and action.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that citizens of the United States make a concentrated effort to follow these recommendations in an effort to bring down the high cost of living.

3. WHEREAS, the National Organization of Future Farmers of America can promote these recommendations as a part of the united effort.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fowler Chapter of Future Farmers of America in Kansas will devote a part of the Program of Work to promote a WIN program.

4. WHEREAS, it was strongly urged that the people of America observe these recommendations as a means of revitalizing the economy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all of us do have great faith and confidence in America and by working together we can WIN.

Fowler Chapter of FFA
Dan Bacon, President
Oran Nunemaker, Advisor

Learning While Earning

Members of this chapter operate their own feedlot as a learning experience but find they get more than profits.

HOW can you learn about agriculture if you live in a city? That's the problem two young Kimball, Nebraska, FFA members had back in 1969. They both lived within city limits, but they still wanted to have a supervised farming project. So, in cooperation with a local farmer, they formed a small feedlot that consisted of two steers. This idea has grown to what today consists of 19 fat steers owned by 15 FFA members with a total investment of over $15,000.

The feedlot itself is now located on the southern edge of Kimball, Nebraska. The land that the feedlot is on is owned by Mrs. Earl Vowers, who is an avid supporter of the FFA. She has donated the facilities for the past five years. In repayment for her generosity, FFA members have given their time in helping her with yardwork around her house.

Members have also put in improvements in the barn area itself. Along with cleaning and maintaining the barn and corrals, they have rebuilt and replaced fence and built a 350-bushel grain bin inside the barn.

The implements for use in the feedlot have been built in the high school vo-ag shop. Over the course of the years, the young men and women have built two metal hayfeeders, a trimming stand, a 15-foot metal gate, two feed bunks, and a showbox. Additional equipment is built as the need arises.

The entire cattle operation is supervised by FFA advisor Dan Acheson. Mr. Acheson frequently visits the feedlot to check on the calves' progress. He also instructs the members in the proper methods of showmanship and calf grooming in preparation for shows.

Feeding chores are divided up between the 15 members. Two members feed a specified ration in the morning while two other members feed the same ration at night.

Members feed for a week at a time, then feed again after about two weeks. A schedule to regulate feeding is drawn up by the calf owners along with Mr. Acheson. The schedule is then mimeographed and a copy given to each calf owner, so that they will know when they feed next and how much to feed.

As for halter-breaking the calves, members do this in their own spare time. Halters and grooming equipment are owned by the chapter, the members themselves, and the chapter advisor. Equipment is kept in a showbox so it will be handy for members to use whenever they need it.

Mr. Acheson, together with chapter officers, inform members owning calves, either in the feedlot or on a farm of their own, of livestock shows in the Kimball area which they can attend. For out-of-town shows, members load their calves on a trailer built and owned by the Kimball FFA chapter. Mr. Acheson and adult sponsors take members and their calves to and from these shows.

The first major show to which these calves are taken is the Tri-State Livestock Exposition held in Kimball.

Many cattle breeds can be found in the Kimball feedlot. Herefords, Angus, Charolais, Shorthorn and several crosses are raised by the members. The calves are bought around November of each year, being financed with each owner through local banks and the Kimball Chapter itself. Loans are then paid off when calves are sold at the Kimball-Banner County Fair in mid-August. Averages for profits have been very good the past years; prices being paid an average of about $30 over market price. The Kimball FFA, also for the first time, is supplying insurance for these feedlot calves this year.

And so, young men and women learn the finer points of the feedlot management operation. Selecting stock, proper feeding, correct grooming, and proper care are but a few of these finer points.

But something else is taught; responsibility, cooperation, and reliability are also learned by the members. These qualities, along with many others, are what makes the Future Farmer of today the successful agriculturist of tomorrow. *(By Bob Caudillo, Jim Beranek, Tim Deboodt)*

The All American Farmer Family

Four members of the Robert Walen family received American Farmer degrees at the National FFA Convention. Pat, center, his sister Teresa and their parents Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walen. Brother Mike is FFA chapter president.

PRODUCTION per acre has traditionally been the basis for determining the worth of a piece of property. For the Robert Walen family of Graham, Washington, their "farm" of 2½ acres must be priceless. Because from that small acreage has come the projects that earned for their family four American Farmer degrees at this year's National FFA Convention.

Pat the eldest son was selected as Pacific Region Star Agribusinessman of America. His sister Teresa also received the highly coveted American Farmer degree for her agribusiness project. Their father, Mr. Robert Walen, was awarded the Honorary American Farmer degree for his efforts as an agricultural teacher. And Mrs. Walen received a similar Honorary degree in recognition of her son's achievements as Pacific Region Star Agribusinessman. The other member of the family, Mike age 16, is president of the local FFA chapter and quietly agrees that one day he hopes to receive the fifth American Farmer degree for the family.

Teresa, a college sophomore, describes her early misgivings about achieving the honor. "I remember watching those "Stars Over America" films where they showed so many thousand acres and so many thousand dollars of machines and equipment, and thinking I'll never make that," she says. But the lack of land, equipment and money didn't get in the way of her desire to succeed in the FFA.

Both Pat and Teresa had early beginnings working with agriculture and the FFA. As youngsters they spent much of their time accompanying their father on home visits to his FFA members. They would also ride along to livestock shows and judging contests. Sparked by this early exposure they convinced their father to allow them to raise show lambs for the fair. Since their family didn't live on a farm they started feeding the lambs in their own garage. From the beginning the project was on rocky ground. "The mayor said it was alright," says Pat, "it was the neighbors next door who said they didn't like it. They said that they smelled."

"They didn't really smell that bad, it was just the idea of having sheep in the middle of town," Teresa adds.

Forced to move the lambs, the family found an unused cannery in town and got permission to board their sheep there for the rest of the year.

Facilities were not the only problems with that early project. The first two lambs that were raised for show died from overeating sickness. The following year the lambs stayed healthy but lost money when the price dropped. To afford the project lambs, Pat and Teresa looked for ways to save money whereever possible. "We even picked up straw after the penny hunts in the local park," says Teresa.

Pat worked at a local feed store for lamb feed. "I would get the sweepings off the floor for the hay," says Pat. In addition, during the summer, local townspeople who cut their dried grass would let the Walens have it as cheap feed. "They'd have it cut for us and we'd haul it home," Pat adds.

"I remember we did that one year on my mother and father's wedding anniversary," Teresa quips, "and ended up eating dinner at twelve o'clock at night."

Those shaky beginnings have led to ownership of a 70-head sheep flock. But agriculture production is not the main enterprise of the Walens. Pat received his degree for his horticulture nursery business. Now consisting of three homemade greenhouses, Pat intends to expand the project into a full time business. "It's not quite full time yet," says Pat. "I work for the local school district to make money to invest back into my greenhouse business." The young greenhouse owner also attends college part time each year.

Pat's interest in growing things sprouted when a fourth grade teacher brought a peanut plant back to Washington from West Virginia. Of all the students who attempted to grow a plant from the seed, "Mine was the only plant that came out of it after the whole season," laughs Pat.

Teresa earns a large portion of her income from her FFA banner making business. Her mother had made FFA banners for Washington state FFA chapters since 1964. When the business grew so large she could not handle all

of it, Teresa became involved and now makes close to 500 banners per year. Gradually she has taken over the entire enterprise.

Another activity which Teresa has undertaken is the spinning of yarn. The spinning project worked itself gradually into Teresa's busy schedule. As payment for shearing a neighbor's sheep she received several fleeces. The wool required processing so Teresa acquired an "inkle" loom and learned to weave. She quickly mastered the process but became frustrated with its tediousness. As a solution she constructed a spinning wheel in ag shop to replace the loom. Today she spins her yarns on a new wheel purchased with her income. The hand spun yarn sells for $1.50 per ounce. To complete the wool-to-wear process she and Mrs. Walen transform the yarn into clothing when time allows. As the spinning business developed, the number of sheep Teresa was shearing grew to almost 100 head.

"If it wasn't for these activities I don't think I'd be going to college right now," says Teresa who is a sophomore at a local junior college. In line with her ag background, she is majoring in pre-veterinarian medicine.

Mike Walen, youngest of the family, says he is proud of his family's accomplishments but would like to try a few things his brother and sister haven't done. He is off to a good start. After returning from Kansas City he learned he had won a purebred Hereford heifer rotation project from the local Kiwanis.

What the Walens might have lacked in acreage, facilities or capital they have made up for in family cooperation. Each of the family members "fill in" when another is away at school or working on another job. "It's always been if someone needs a little help with something urgent, we'd all drop what we were doing and give him a hand," says Teresa. "Mike and Mom and I do a lot of selling (from the greenhouses) when Pat's away at his job. Little brother is the mainstay. It seems he's always there when someone is needed."

Mrs. Walen also emphasizes the need for family cooperation. "The awards are fine and we're all thrilled, but they weren't planned. My husband and I were trying to raise children. When we'd be a little short, they'd chip in. It hasn't been all give from our standpoint," she says.

As the Walens share their experiences one can't help but get excited about the FFA and what it has meant for them and can mean for others. Their achievements should be inspiration for any FFA member seeking high goals while faced with limited assets.

Teresa Walen, who with her brothers and parents began with close to nothing, sums it up best. "It's not an impossible dream."

Interest was high among delegation assembled for the FFA Alumni Convention.

FFA Alumni Opens Doors

A CONSTITUTIONAL amendment passed by delegates to the FFA Alumni Association Convention allows parents of FFA members and others interested in FFA to join the Alumni Association. This action came as one of the highlights of the recent National FFA Alumni Association Convention.

As FFA members from across the nation met in Kansas City for their convention last October, members of the fast growing FFA Alumni Association were also meeting for their third annual meeting. The two-day session was scheduled to allow the 600 Alumni members who carried out the convention business to enjoy the FFA Convention in addition to their own program.

"The most important thing about this year's convention was the overwhelming positive attitude shown by the members. Everyone could see that tremendous strides are being made in the FFA Alumni's development and that a positive contribution is being made to the overall FFA program," said Mr. Gus Douglass, retiring National FFA Alumni Chairman.

"This organization has a tremendous potential to assemble some of the greatest agricultural talent in the world under one banner," said Mr. Orion Samuelson, famed agricultural spokesman for WGN in Chicago as he challenged FFA Alumni members to future achievements in his keynote address.

An entirely new program to be conducted at the local, state, and national levels was initiated at the convention with the presentation of the first "FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement Awards" to three former outstanding members—Congressman Jerry Litton, Mr. Orion Samuelson, and Mr. William Kuhfuss. The award is presented for outstanding service to agriculture.

Dr. James Clouse, left, replaces Mr. Gus Douglass as Council Chairman.

Knowing the importance of member efforts in building the FFA Alumni Association, recognition was paid to 165 individuals who have shown active leadership in building the FFA Alumni Association. The members were presented the Legion of Merit Citation.

Dr. James Clouse was elected to head the National FFA Alumni Council for the coming year with Mr. Richard Waybright elected vice-chairman. Dr. Clouse is Head of Agriculture Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Mr. Waybright farms near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. New members elected to serve on the Alumni Council are Mr. Jerry Goolsby of Oklahoma and Mr. David Thomas of Missouri.

Dedicated . . .

Long hours and busy schedules are the life of this agriculture teacher—who likes it that way.

By Gary Bye

BOB DeLauder, a young ag teacher at Damascus, Maryland, tosses the stub of chalk towards the pile of papers stacked on his desk. The Friday dismissal bell is ringing and his students are hurrying toward the door. "Don't forget that judging contest tomorrow," he warns. As he loosens his tie he remembers the home visit he had scheduled for the evening. "I'll be out to look at that steer tonight," he had told a freshman boy. After the visit he will stop for a chat with a potential student employer.

This is a typical day in DeLauder's life. He works hard in the classroom, shop or greenhouse and on field trips and home visits. And he loves it. DeLauder is one of over 11,000 such teachers across the nation. But he is not average. In fact there is no such thing as an average agricultural teacher. Each one is unique and must be. They run educational programs based on students needs, community resources, and their own special talents.

At times DeLauder wears a suit and tie. He is equally at home in his shop apron and welding helmet. Other occasions call for his work boots and hat. Like most teachers of agriculture he is an amateur veterinarian, accountant, welder, carpenter, business manager, nurseryman, and counselor. He is a knowledgable spokesman for the entire agricultural community and serves as one of the local authorities on the industry of agriculture.

Dedicated men like DeLauder are in demand. (See. . . *and in Demand.*) Despite the fact that graduates of agriculture education programs receive one of the highest beginning salaries among education graduates, there is a shortage of agriculture teachers in many states across the nation. In 1972 for example, 134 more teachers were needed than were available.

The reason for the shortage can be traced to an expanded interest in agriculture by students and the alternate choices of occupations by agricultural education graduates. Efforts to ease the critical shortage which peaked in 1967 have met only limited success.

Students that acquire a degree in agricultural education have several jobs from which to choose. Jim Caudle, a beginning teacher from Cuba, Illinois, reflects on some of those choices.

"There are jobs in all different instructional areas," says Caudle. There seem to be an increasing number of teaching positions available in greenhouse/ornamental horticulture programs as well as ag mechanics. A job may be in a single man department or one with multiple teachers. Also the number of jobs in the larger metropolitan areas are expanding. I chose a school with a basic agriculture production program because that's what my background was in."

The choices aren't always easy. But men like DeLauder and Caudle feel fortunate to have those kinds of choices. Many job seekers don't. The decision that they have made is obviously a good one. They are happy in their jobs and plan to continue teaching. Because of the high demand for people with their qualifications other teachers choose to leave the profession each year.

According to a survey by Ralph Woodin, a former staff member of the Department of Vocational Technical Education at the University of Tennessee, approximately 12 percent of all ag teachers leave their positions each year. This is slightly higher than the turnover rate for other groups of teachers. The survey also showed that of the 1,713 students who were qualified to teach last year 44 percent entered other occupations. Of course a certain number of these return to the farm. Training to teach agriculture gives them an alternate occupation and advanced training in agriculture while they wait to return to the family farm.

Others who leave the ag teaching field select high paying jobs in production, processing, or marketing industries.

"This is not unusual for vocational agriculture teachers," says Bill Harrison, President of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, "because the demand for people with such

(Continued on Page 31)

. . . and in Demand

Those who meet the requirements are in demand as shown by the growing need for ag teachers.

By Ralph Woodin

There will probably be a severe shortage of vocational agriculture teachers for the next five years in most states, according to a research study completed last year. This means that FFA members who enter an agricultural college in 1975 to prepare for a teaching career can be sure of teaching jobs when they graduate.

A concerted nationwide effort to increase the number of vo-ag teachers has been made by the profession including national organization of teachers, supervisors and teacher educators. Annual studies of the supply and demand of vo-ag teachers have been made since 1966 and are a part of the efforts of the efforts of an American Vocational Education Committee headed by Dr. Robert Price of Oklahoma. As a result of this effort, the number prepared for teaching rose from 1,038 in 1965 to 1,759 in 1972. The shortage of vo-ag teachers at a time when there is an over supply of some other teachers is due to certain unique factors which were supported by last year's study of the supply and demand of vo-ag teachers, the ninth of a series sponsored by the National Association of Teacher Educators in Agriculture.

The number of teaching positions in vo-ag is growing rapidly in many states. During the past five years teacher numbers in the nation have risen from 10,560 in 1969 to 11,141 in 1973. States with increases of 20 or more teaching positions in 1973 included Florida with 42, Minnesota with 31, Missouri with 26, California with 26, Texas with 27, Louisiana and Ohio with 20.

The shortage of vo-ag teachers is due in part to experienced teachers taking other agricultural jobs in education and agribusiness. Many teachers each year become school administrators, agricultural representatives and extension agents to name a few. The percentage of teachers leaving vo-ag is ordinarily about 12 percent as compared to 8 percent for other high school teachers.

The teacher shortage is also due to many competing opportunities being available on graduation day to those qualified in agricultural education. Last year 1,713 persons were qualified but only 966 entered teaching. Of every 100 qualified graduates last year 56 entered vo-ag teaching, 8 entered graduate schools, 9 went into farming, 7 entered agribusiness, 4 entered other teaching positions, 2 entered the armed forces and the remaining 16 percent entered miscellaneous occupations.

The salaries of vo-ag teachers have risen steadily and monthly salaries are slightly higher than those of most other teachers. A study which included 49 states made by Professor James P. Key and Gary D. Hill of Oklahoma State University last year showed that a teacher with a B.S. degree could expect a monthly salary ranging from $500 to $1,062 with 42 percent of first year teachers receiving from $700 to a top salary of $1,062 per month. Salary increases for tenure, masters degrees and additional duties have brought many experienced teachers' salaries up to $1,400 or more per month. This study showed that in addition most teachers received such fringe benefits as retirement, vacation and travel and that 54 percent of the states employed teachers on a year round basis.

The teachers job is changing with the times and world food shortages make it increasingly important. Last year 87 percent of all teachers were in comprehensive high schools and 13 percent in area and vocational high schools. Forty-five percent of teachers were in multiple teacher programs and 55 percent of teachers taught both high school students and young adult farmer groups.

Preparing their students for jobs in agribusiness as well as in farming was a part of most teachers' work. About half of the teachers taught both production and specialized agricultural courses such as agricultural supply or

(Continued on Page 31)

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Employment In Agriculture

"AGRICULTURE is our nation's largest industry." How many times have you heard this said by persons trying to emphasize the importance of agriculture? Probably several. Yet until recently very little evidence was available to identify how many people were employed by the agriculture/agribusiness industry or in what capacity they were employed.

Now for the first time, a study based on previously unpublished segments of the 1970 U.S. Census, gives detailed information illustrating just how important agriculture is to the employment market. The study identifies and defines agribusiness occupations and the industries in which these occupations are located. The pioneer study was carried out as an interagency effort by the Departments of Agriculture; Health, Education and Welfare; Commerce; and Labor. The results are significant in pinpointing the number of persons in agriculture and in what specific occupations they work.

"The data reveals that five percent or four million of the total U.S. working force consider agriculture/agribusiness as their primary employment and utilize agricultural competencies in their work," says Mr. Neville Hunsicker, National FFA Advisor and chairman of the organizing committee for the study. "This number increases to approximately 10-11 percent when those persons who claim secondary or part time employment in agriculture are added to the total, and when figures are seasonally adjusted.

The ten percent represents only those workers who must have identifiable skills in or knowledge of agriculture. Those workers are not included who are employed by an agricultural business but do not utilize agricultural competencies. For example, a bookkeeper in a feed store would not be included in the figures. The study has also projected occupational needs for 1980 when the total number of workers needed will increase almost five percent.

The study began by reducing the 20,000 total occupations listed by the Census Bureau to 108 which are significant to the agricultural industry. It was found that of the 205 basic industries in the United States 195 have employees which use agricultural competencies. The 108 occupations were then analyzed to determine the number of persons in the nation who were employed by these 108 agricultural occupations.

Another recent independent study of the agricultural industry which uses an employee approach rather than a competency approach identifies all agricultural workers whether they use agricultural competencies or not. It shows that close to 17 million or 20 percent of all U.S. employees have jobs directly involving agriculture. Although a large number of these workers do not use identified agricultural competencies which require training, they no doubt benefit from a greater knowledge of the business with which they are dealing.

What do figures from these studies mean to students now enrolled or who are planning to enroll in vocational agriculture classes? Clearly it points out that the training they are receiving is preparing them for genuine employment in agriculture. If they successfully develop the skills and understanding that is needed for such jobs they will have an excellent chance of finding satisfactory employment.

Approximately 135,000 young men and women graduate from our high school vocational agriculture programs each year. Close to 98,000 continue in some type of agriculture, either through additional schooling or employment. The number of trained graduates entering the field each year does not meet the demand for workers with skills and knowledge of agriculture as illustrated by the recent surveys.

"The opportunities for employment in agriculture are tremendous," says Mr. Hunsicker. "From the figures we have gathered, we can say without question that agriculture is our nation's largest employing industry."

Dedicated . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

qualifications is high in all other areas of agriculture and related business and industry. Throughout the years there have been occasions where their expertise and their capabilities were in great demand." Many agriculture teachers also become successful high school administrators and college instructors.

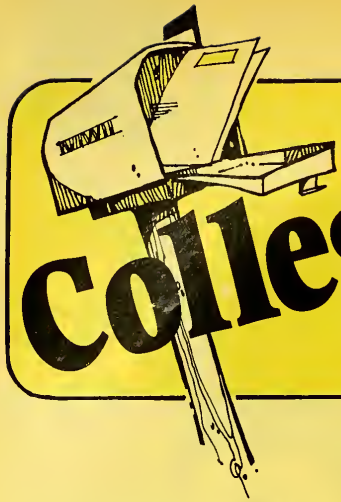
Bob DeLauder feels that the busy life of an ag teacher has the rewards that make his profession more than a job. Often he suggests to one of his outstanding seniors that they explore the possibility of becoming an ag teacher. He knows that the high school ag background his students receive is one of the best preparations for teaching agriculture. To those young men and women and many like them enrolled in a high school agriculture program this might be the most valuable advice they will ever receive.

. . . and in Demand

(Continued from Page 29)

ornamental horticulture to their students. Full time teachers in specialized programs made up only 7.4 percent of the total and 40 percent of all teachers taught only production agriculture.

One aspect of the teachers' responsibility which has increased in importance is that of advising an FFA chapter. Although there are changes in chapter activities from year to year the development of leadership and citizenship potential in every member remains a vital part of his agricultural education. Future Farmers have an important edge on others as potential teachers because of their experience in their FFA activities as well as in the classroom, on the farm, and in the agribusiness area.



Colleges Make House Calls

By Frank L. Hicks, Jr.

COMPLEXITIES in today's farm equipment, soil conservation, marketing, fertilizers, farming practices, and the many, many other intricacies of today's agribusiness increases the need for future farmers to have a broader and more sophisticated education. But with high costs of living, four years away at college is beyond the reach of many farming families. Colleges and universities throughout America recognize this fact and have made great advances in reducing the problem by coming to you—that's right, colleges do make house calls.

Over 64 fully accredited colleges and universities joined together to form the National University Extension Association (NUEA). Originally founded in 1915, its sole purpose is to make the latest technology, scientific advancements, and trade methods for all types of endeavors, available to everyone in the United States especially those living in rural and farming areas. NUEA members offer over 10,000 courses which can be taken right at home. All subjects are represented from agriculture to zoology. Courses include credit for high school diplomas, college degrees, and even advanced graduate credits. And these colleges and universities are the highest academic institutes within the United States, such as: University of California, University of Arizona, University of Oklahoma, University of Missouri, University of Georgia, and Indiana University, just to name a few.

Here's the chance for a future farmer to learn the latest college level information on dairy farming practices, feeds and feeding, fertilizers, marketing farm products, soils, farm crop production, farm co-ops and financing, insect control, land utilization, farm accounts, agronomy, beekeeping, farm buildings, farm extension service, raising farm animals, forage and field crops, fruit and vegetables, animal nutrition, economics of farming, entomology, etc., that will provide an immediate profit and benefit to him personally as well as to the farm. But in addition to directly related subjects there are many courses available which will enable the future farmer to become more knowledgeable about indirect farm related subjects such as; construction, plumbing, house wiring, arc welding, equipment mechanic, roof framing, wildlife, etc., thereby making the farm and farmer as self-sufficient as possible and practical.

The effectiveness of home study has been proven over and over again and is even utilized by resident college students. Recent studies made separately by the North Dakota State University and Penn State University revealed students who studied by correspondence did as well or better than resident students. This has been known by other countries for some time. The Soviet Union's regular state educational system includes numerous correspondence courses in elementary, secondary, technical, vocational, and higher education. Australia was first to offer complete primary and secondary education for children not in residence. These courses are supplemented by traveling libraries and exhibitions, special magazines, radio and television. New Zealand, Canada, Sweden, France, and Japan, have all used such systems effectively, especially for children living in remote areas. Now, Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia are also starting to employ these systems.

Cost of courses vary considerably depending on the college or university. For college credit courses the cost ranges from $7.00 to $35.00 per credit hour, and for high school courses from $15.00 to $40.00 per half unit hour. The cost of text books, available by mail from the college bookstore, is extra but seldom is more than $10.00. These costs are considerably less than the cost of resident study costs, plus the fact normal farm occupations can be maintained during study. Also some college courses are now only available via correspondence. Students are also given the privilege of borrowing books on reading lists from the university library. The only charge is postage.

Scholarship programs are available since these are fully accredited courses, as well as government loans. Details of such programs should be obtained from the dean of admissions at the college you plan to attend. Some of these universities will accept up to 50 percent of the credits required for a degree via correspondence, although most limit it to 25 percent. One hundred percent of such credits, however, may be applied towards professional certificates.

Advantages of this method of study are numerous. The student can enroll in the specialized courses most advantageous to his present circumstance. He can establish his own study schedules and pace to fit into available spare time. Personal study characteristics for resolving problems on one's own are strengthened. And a one to one relationship with the instructor allows personal attention to any particular problem, not available in classroom participation. In fact, usually any questions relating to the course, even personal applications of study information, receive prompt personal answers from the instructor.

Each exam, usually there are 10 to 20 per course, are taken at home and are

(Continued on Page 40)

The good ol' boys have got even more .22 ideas than the big boys.

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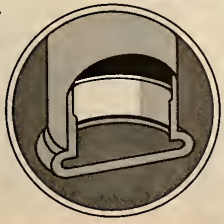
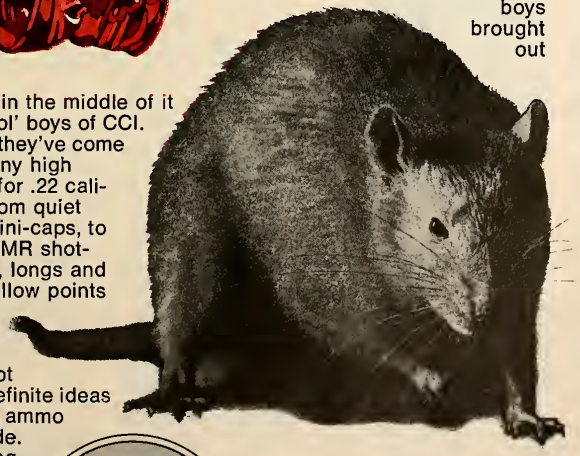


And, like coating the bullet with a hard lubricant instead of the soft, gummy kind that rubs off all too easily. On your hands and in your gun.

Of course, better product ideas call for better package ideas. So back in '70 the good ol' boys brought out the first plastic pack to replace cardboard boxes. At the time, the big boys just laughed. Today, they're using identical packages.



So if you're the type who likes the idea of wallop and accuracy in .22 ammo, try going a few rounds with the good ol' boys.

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Two Year Post-Secondary

Is there one in your future?

BILL, a senior in vocational agriculture is undecided about what he will do after high school graduation. Ten to 15 years ago graduates interested in pursuing an agricultural career generally had two options: enter the world of work or attend a four year college or university for additional education.

Today, Bill has an additional option. He may consider enrolling in a two year post-secondary program in agriculture or one of its allied areas. And if he does enroll, he will become part of the fastest growing segment of agricultural education in the United States.

More than 46,000 students took advantage of the 1,136 post-secondary agriculture/agribusiness programs offered in 453 institutions in the 50 states and Puerto Rico last year. Enrollment has doubled since 1970.

Bill asks, "Why such a large enrollment increase?" Then he proceeds to answer his own question. "I suppose these two year programs are easier; they demand less intelligence than four year degree programs. Man, they must be a rip-off for the students."

Bill needs some legitimate answers! He needs to replace misconceptions he has about two year post-secondary agriculture, agribusiness and natural resources programs. Our hypothetical Bill should question students and graduates from these programs.

If Bill were to ask, "Why are you enrolled in a two year post-secondary agriculture program?" he might receive this answer: "I want to become an animal health technician. This two year highly specialized program will qualify me to work with a veterinarian as a paraprofessional." Paraprofessionals work under the direct supervision of a professional; in this example a veterinarian The animal health technician may have responsiblities in areas of treatments, X-ray, anesthesia, surgical nursing, and lab procedures.

Some examples of other highly specialized programs to prepare paraprofessionals are: agricultural research and laboratory science, food processing science, natural resources, agricultural waste management, turf management, agricultural engineering, and ag chemicals.

A second response Bill might receive from another student is, "As part of my agribusiness on-the-job training while in high school, I worked at a local grain elevator. The manager said he would promote me to assistant manager of fertilizer and petroleum operations if I would complete the two year program in agribusiness management."

Institutions

Ag OP

By Larry Erpelding

This former FFA'er is preparing for a position in mid-management. He will assist in the supervision of semi-skilled and skilled workers in the fertilizer and petroleum area. He will in turn be responsible to a manager.

A sampling of other programs preparing people for mid-management positions are: landscape maintenance, feedlot management, parks and recreation, greenhouse management, heavy equipment, tractor and implement mechanics, and agricultural business management.

If Bill were to ask, "Why are you enrolled in a two year post-secondary agriculture program?" again, he might get this answer: "While in vo-ag and FFA, I acquired some rental land and expanded my swine farrowing enterprise. I want to stay close to my investment allowing me to manage and expand it. I commute to the ag transfer program 20 miles away. In two years I plan to enroll as a junior at State University which is 60 miles from my farm. This means I'll be away from my investment only two years instead of four." By carefully selecting courses in an agriculture transfer program, students can generally receive the bachelor's degree in agriculture in four years.

Many students elect to complete an associate degree in a two year production agriculture program then return to the farm. Broad coverage production programs may be identified by titles such as: farm and ranch management, agricultural production, agricultural production and management, and agricultural science. Specialized production programs may be labeled: animal science, cow-calf production, agronomics, dairy science, animal technology, crop and soil technology and swine management.

An agricultural or natural resources program tailor-made for you and your career objectives may be offered in a two year post-secondary institution. If your state doesn't have *the* program for you, check the latest edition of the *Directory of Post-Secondary Schools with Occupational Programs*. You will probably find a copy in the school library or the guidance counselor's office.

Typical institutions having two year post-secondary programs are community colleges, technical institutes, technical colleges, area vocational technical schools, and branch campuses or two year college divisions provided by some four year colleges and universities.

More important than the name of the institution is the type of program you select. Which one will help you accomplish your career objectives? Vocational agriculture students are generally interested in three programs offered by two year post-secondary institutions. They are: occupational education, college transfer, and continuing education.

Occupational programs are for students interested in becoming job ready. Graduates generally enter skilled, mid-management, or paraprofessional occupations or return to the farm. Requirements for graduation are based on demands of the occupation to be entered. You may find some highly specialized agriculture and natural resources programs can be completed in 12 or 18 months.

Occupational programs generally include a learn/earn phase called internship. Graduates of Ohio agricultural and natural resources technician programs recently said internship was the most beneficial aspect of two year post-secondary programs. The on-the-job experience allows application of knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom.

Don't be afraid to ask questions as you investigate the suitability of various programs to your needs. Some key questions to ask are: What employment opportunities are available to graduates? How many job vacancies were reported to this institution? How many of your graduates are employed? In what jobs are they employed? Is an advisory council made up of people in relevant occupations used to evaluate the curriculum and suggest revisions? Effective advisory councils can help the institution rapidly adjust the curriculum to coincide with changes and advancements occurring in the occupations.

Transfer programs are for students desiring to complete one or two years in a post-secondary institution then finish a four year degree in a college or university.

An important question when considering a transfer program is, "Will the courses I take transfer to the four year college and count as credit toward my bachelor's degree?" A mistake in scheduling courses may cost you an extra semester or more of time and money to complete a four year degree. A sound practice is to seek scheduling advice from a faculty advisor in the two year program and at the four year college in your intended major.

Continuing education classes are generally evening offerings for fully employed people desiring to improve occupational skills. Students may enroll in one or more courses per term. They generally will not complete a two-year degree.

Post-secondary institutions can offer many advantages to vocational agriculture students:

1. Higher education opportunities close to home.
2. Highly specialized training programs for paraprofessional and mid-management positions.
3. Fees and tuition usually lower than those assessed by four year institutions. Some states provide free fees and tuition for residents attending two year post-secondary programs.
4. Greater employment opportunities and higher salaries for graduates as compared to high school graduates.
5. Agriculture/agribusiness programs allow students to build upon knowledges and skills acquired in vocational agriculture.

Your alternatives for career preparation in agriculture or one of its allied fields are many. You can prepare for a multitude of highly specialized occupations and become employed in two years or perhaps less. Or perhaps you want to transfer to a four year college or university after a couple of years in a community college. Is there a two year post-secondary institution in your future?

Your FFA Experience Can Help!

Two former FFA members talk about their careers and the FFA.

By John Leidner

WHILE in the FFA, Dan Boenig and Tommy Engelke were real leaders. Now as agronomy majors at Texas A&M University, they continue to excel. They are active as national officers in the student section of the American Society of Agronomy. Dan is president while Tommy is the recording secretary.

Both were state vice presidents in the Texas FFA Association and American Farmer degree recipients. Both came from small central Texas towns, Dan from Converse and Tommy from Luling. They are putting themselves through school with profits from crop production projects.

Tommy also spent one summer as an exchange student in the FFA Work Experience Abroad program. Living on a West German farm, he learned much about European agricultural practices. The 1973 program participants elected Tommy class president.

Tommy and Dan expressed their own ideas about agronomy in the following interview.

Question: What is your definition of agronomy?

Dan: Agronomy is the study of the soil and crop sciences. Farming is important but agronomy involves more than farming. It is the profession responsible for conserving the soil—our most basic natural resource. Agronomy is the profession that feeds the world.

Tommy: I believe agronomy is the relationship between the different types of crops and soils. It involves such practices as crop rotations and deciding what crops grow best on what soils.

Q: How is agronomy relevant to persons with FFA backgrounds and training in vocational agriculture?

Tommy: Agronomy involves vo-ag students through their participation in FFA sponsored soil and land judging teams. As a member of a high school land judging team for two years, I now see where I was helped in college agronomy courses.

Dan: To the vo-ag student, the study of agronomy gives him or her a better appreciation of where food comes from. Agronomy is basic for survival because without plants, neither man nor the animals which he eats, could survive.

Q: What jobs are available to the agronomy graduate?

Tommy: Career opportunities vary depending on the extent of training and degree of specialization. Agronomy graduates have landed successful careers in farming, farm and range management, county extension work, and as land use planners.

Photo by Mary Brown

Dan: Other jobs include the production, processing and marketing of feeds, fertilizers, herbicides and seeds. Also the turfgrass industry employs golf course superintendents, ground's supervisors, lawn specialists, turf supply and equipment handlers as well as turf consultants.

Q: What high school courses are important for someone who may be interested in studying agronomy.

Dan: The main course is vocational agriculture. Through vo-ag, students learn about crops, fertilizer and the soil. Other courses which are important include biology and botany courses.

Tommy: I suggest taking all available biology courses. Another course to seriously consider is chemistry. High level mathematics courses help too.

Q: What does college training in agronomy involve?

Dan: Agronomy students take courses in the plant and soil sciences. The beginning agronomy student takes a general course in botany and then a taxonomy course. Eventually the student takes courses in a specific agronomic area such as soil science, soil conservation, herbicides, soil and water relationships, pasture management and crop breeding.

Tommy: It involves a lot besides classwork. There are field trips, conventions, discussion groups and contests.

Dan: The American Society of Agronomy exposes students to fields of expertise in various agronomy areas. As president of the student section, I'm responsible for coordinating activities.

Q: How did your experiences in the FFA help each of you become national officers in the student section of the American Society of Agronomy?

Dan: The emphasis on leadership helped the most. We had many competitors for our offices but were able to win because FFA taught us how to meet and remember people.

Q. Many FFA members of today will be the crop producers of 1980. What will they be doing that is different from what is being done today?

Dan: Crop producers in 1980 will probably be using machines to do almost 100 percent of the work. Labor will become more expensive. The 1980 farmer will have a large scale investment, farming many more acres with increasingly expensive and complex machinery. The crops, such as cotton, which have been important for hundreds of years will continue to receive much attention.

Tommy: We're in a technological world. Research into a crop such as soybeans has shown high protein content of plants to be effective in supplementing our food. I expect new uses to be continually found for our present crops. No new crops will be used but through hybridization, our present crops will be improved to meet the demands of a hungry world.

Author: Gentlemen, thank you for an informative interview.

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Marlin Made now as they were then.

Johnson Ormon, left, and his son, Sammie, with some of the ribbons and trophies Sammie has earned. They have Mr. Ormon's FFA record book going back to 1935.

Following

Father and son share a tradition when both have received the highest FFA degree, American Farmer.

By Lola M. Autry

755 Tank Battalion
Camp Bowie, Texas
Nov. 4, 1941

Dear Johnson,

Congratulations on that American Farmer degee—that I saw in the paper you were to get. I wondered often what you were doing since you finished high school and whether or not you had kept up the farming program we set up five or six years ago and followed while I was there, and if so, if it has gotten to that point that I told you would come when there would be a Mrs. added.

Give your family and neighbors my regards,

R. L. Barrett
Capt.

Captain Barrett had been FFA Advisor to Johnson Ormon at the Hickory Flat, Mississippi, High School in those years prior to his enlistment. It was he who helped the young man and encouraged the ambition that would bring the American Farmer degree in 1941. Johnson's mother was a widow, but her determination never faltered when her children were concerned, and she backed her son as much as possible. And, so it was that with their help Samuel Johnson Ormon became one of those early FFA members in Mississippi to receive the American Farmer degree.

It was in 1935 that Johnson began as a Greenhand in the Future Farmer program. His first project was the raising of his own mule colts—animals that would furnish farming power for his row crops. He branched out into hogs and cattle, and by 1941, despite the depression years, had saved $305.20 from his projects. The 20 cents was the amount saved in 1936-37. That was a bad year savings-wise, but in it he accumulated some worthwhile livestock. In his second year as a Future Farmer he bought his first land.

Twenty-six years later, in October, 1967, Samuel Johnson Ormon. Jr. received his American Farmer degree. His earnings while a member of FFA in the years 1961-65 had reached $16,994. And it was in his second year as a Future Farmer member that he, like his father, bought his first land.

In 1963, Mr. Curtis Mohundro, Hickory Flat agriculture teacher and FFA Advisor said: "Sammie and his father have an ideal father-son relationship." Johnson backed Sammie with financial advice; Mohundro with the professional skill of an ag teacher dedicated to helping the students he taught.

When Sammie became a Star Farmer of Mississippi in 1965 the following appeared in the July-August issue of Mississippi Future Farmer: "His record of accomplishments during his four-year membership in the organization is perhaps the most comprehensive of any student to ever be a member of the Mississippi Association of FFA."

In April, 1968—the year after Sammie received his American Farmer degree—he received another title of big brother to twin boys, Mitchell and Michael. Although his mother and three sisters were always interested and helpful in the farm work it had been Sammie and his dad who had walked side by side. Now there were two to follow in their footsteps.

Beginning early Mitchell and Michael have started to follow in the example set by their father and brother. When they were five years old, Mitchell and Michael "showed hogs" at the county fair. They are being encouraged to learn the skills that will help them along the road to receiving American Farmer degrees of their own.

Thus the American Farmer degree is becoming a family tradition for the Ormon family. Maybe even for Sammie's two-year-old son, too.

"I'd tell you more if I could, Mabel but I've already told you much more than I know myself."

Two new 4-wheel drive tractors are being added to the John Deere line. The tractors include the 8630 (left) with 275 engine hp and 225 PTO hp, and the 8430 with 215 engine hp and 175 PTO hp. The tractors will be in production in 1975. John Deere, 1400 - 3rd Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265.

Newest addition to International Harvester's hay equipment line is the Bigroll Baler now available for next year. Bales are five feet wide and can be made in sizes up to 6 feet in diameter. International Harvester, 401 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60611.

NEW

For the Farm

J I Case Company has announced production of a new, high horsepower 4-wheel drive tractor, designated the 2670 Tractor King. It joins the 2470 introduced two years ago. The new tractor is rated at 256 gross engine hp and 221 PTO hp. Agricultural Equipment Division, Advertising Department, J I Case Company, Racine, Wisconsin 53404.

A new improved Model 440 articulated, 4-wheel drive 165 drawbar hp farm tractor being offered by Allis-Chalmers Corp. includes many changes. The 440 is largest in Allis-Chalmer Tractor line. Allis-Chalmers Corp. Agricultural Equipment Division, Box 512, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53201.

A new ear tag named the STAND-UP for livestock identification sets on top of the ear with glare free numbers. From the Y-Tex Corp., Cody, Wyoming 82414.

Homelite offers its first gas powered chain saw under $100. It features automatic chain oiling. Power head weighs 7.2 lbs. Homelite, Port Chester, N.Y. 10573.

Increased speed in delivery of grain to market is achieved in the agricultural gravity box trailer introduced recently by Winnebago Industries. The new center dump gravity box features dumping time of less than one minute for the 310 bushel capacity unit. Write department PR, Winnebago Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 152, Forest City, Iowa, 50436.

Jim Thomas, left, presents gift to Mr. Oswell Smith at the retirement dinner.

A Way of Saying Thanks

Retirement for an agricultural teacher may mean much more that a departure from a life of hard work and dedication.

EACH year across the United States numerous persons reach the age that allows them to retire from their jobs. For some this may mean a long awaited departure from a lifetime of drudgery. To an agriculture teacher it may mean a great deal more.

Former students of the Patterson, Georgia, Chapter illustrated how retirement for a teacher could be the highlight of a successful career. To show their appreciation for his years of service the former students of Mr. Oswell Smith paid special tribute to him by holding a retirement dinner in his honor.

Mr. Smith had served as advisor for the chapter for 35 years. That in itself is worthy of recognition, yet Smith has numerous other achievements in addition to his length of tenure. One of his students, Jim Thomas, is a past national FFA president.

Thomas, now a lawyer in Savannah, Georgia, served as emcee for the dinner. "The good teacher like the good physician is worthy of our best praise. This very gathering is a standing monument to the esteem with which fine teachers may be held," Thomas said in his remarks.

Also on hand to honor the retirement of Smith was national president of the FFA, Mark Mayfield.

The history of the Patterson FFA was presented by former Georgia state FFA officer, Herbie Byrd. Byrd related the hundreds of accomplishments of the Patterson FFA under Smith's guidance. "This record of accomplishment is a reflection upon the supervision, direction, teaching, and the leadership of Oswell Smith," Byrd commented.

Smith and his wife, also a teacher, were presented with a silver tea service in honor of their many years of dedicated teaching.

Many teachers retire each year. Hopefully their retirement may be a pleasant departure from life's work. Without question, public tribute such as that received by Mr. Oswell Smith may make retirement the very highlight of a rewarding career.

Colleges

(Continued from Page 32)

graded with personal comments. Only the final exam requires a witness or examiner for college credit. If far from a college the exam can usually be taken at the local public school.

Today there is a wide choice of colleges and universities offering home study courses. In fact, 40 different states have one or more accredited universities or colleges with credit courses. And they span the country all the way from the University of Alaska to the University of Florida. The best way to find out which college offers the courses you want is to obtain a copy of the NUEA annual publication "Guide to Independent Study." This booklet may be obtained at a cost of 75 cents by writing to the Coordinator of Correspondence Instruction, the University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi 38677, or to the National University Extension Association, Suite 360, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036. Or the local library may have a copy of the bulletin or a similar publication such as "College by Mail" by Jo Jensen and published by ARCO. The booklet includes the names and addresses of all 64 member colleges and the category of courses offered by each. Then write the college(s) offering the courses desired. Colleges will provide a free detailed catalog of courses, description, tuition, etc. You can also write direct to the Director, Correspondence Study of the colleges listed earlier or to one of your choice and ask about correspondence study at the particular college.

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"They give the youngsters too much homework. Why, he's been doing his now for three full quarters of the football game."

The Acre Takers

Use of our nation's resources is a concern to all Americans. This report looks at the status and demand for farm land.

FROM our nation's 2,264 million acres of land we feed, clothe, and house some 212 million people and produce still more items for export. Just how our land is divided up and the changing uses of agricultural land were detailed recently by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

According to the report, thousands of acres of farmland are converted annually to other uses—urbanization, roads, wildlife, and recreation. Despite this conversion of land and the fact that U.S. population has risen a third in 20 years, we are in no danger of running out of farmland. Increasingly efficient production methods, a declining rate of population growth, and an abundance of water resources and land with agricultural potential should ensure our domestic food and fiber needs to the year 2000 and leave enough land left over for other purposes.

Distribution of the nation's land among major uses has not changed markedly in recent decades. Agriculture continues to use more of our land than any other segment of the economy. In the 50 states, about a fifth of all land is used for growing crops and well over a third, including both grassland and woodland grazed, is used for livestock grazing. Forest land occupies a third of the total land area. About one-eighth of the land consists of marshes and swamp, desert, tundra, and barren land. Land in urban uses has about doubled since 1950 and now makes up almost two percent of the total land area. One percent of the land area is used for roads, airports, and other rural transportation facilities.

How land is used, and its potential for development or conversion to other uses is interrelated with availability and quality of water. Water supplies and demands vary widely among regions. Nationwide, five percent of annual runoff supply is consumed, that is, it does not return to surface or ground sources. Agriculture accounts for at least half and in many cases for nearly all water consumed in 13 of the 18 water resource regions. The Water Resources Council projects that water withdrawals for steam-electric power will exceed all other major uses by 2000. Irrigation will continue to be the principal consumptive use of water, although it will decline slightly as a share of total use.

More than a million acres of rural land are converted annually to urban and transportation uses and to water storage and flood control reservoirs. Probably less than half of this land was in crops before it was converted to other uses. Total conversion of cropland to other uses currently averages over 2½ million acres a year. This acreage is partially offset by development of 1¼ million acres of new cropland each year.

This sizable reduction in cropland has been possible because of a 50-percent increase in output per crop acre during the last 20 years. Contributing to the gain in output are more efficient farm organization, increased irrigation and use of agricultural chemicals, improvements in other farming inputs, development of more productive cropland, and retirement of less productive acreage.

Under a specific set of assumptions with respect to population, exports, and related variables, acreage of crops harvested in the year 2000 is projected to decline slightly from 1969 acreage. A population growth of 30 percent and a moderate increase in exports are basic to these estimates. With a lower population growth and no other changes, projected requirements for harvested cropland are 291 million acres in 1980 and 261 million acres in 2000. Projected cropland requirements would increase to 304 million acres of harvested cropland in 1980 and 309 million acres in 2000, if export of farm products are higher than assumed.

Total acreage potentially available for crop production exceeds these projections. By 1980, the total acreage of cropland harvested could range from 340 to 350 million acres, and favorable cost-price relations for agricultural production. This increase in crop acreage could be met by more complete use of land now in farms with a cropping history and continuation of cropland development at about the current rate. In the longer term, considerable additional land could be developed for crop production, although costs could be quite high because of the extensive improvements—clearing, drainage, irrigation, etc.—needed to make it suitable for regular cultivation.

Acreage required for urban needs is projected to grow by as much as 21 million acres between 1969 and 2000. Some increase in the area used for recreation and wildlife habitat is expected. Where recreation and wildlife uses are introduced as a multiple use of land, however, land will not necessarily be converted from other uses such as agriculture or forestry. The area required for national defense installations, water storage and flood control reservoirs, and surface mining is expected to total five million acres by 2000. None of these projected changes would substantially alter the present distribution of major land uses.

The sum of the many private and public land use decisions has importance both for the near and the long term. This concern for the future is evident in several areas of current national interest in which land use has a central role: meeting present and future needs for agricultural and forest products, allocating land among competing uses, improving environmental quality, meeting present and future energy needs, and devising institutions to reconcile private and public interests in resources and achieve local, state, and national goals for resource management and use.

As FFA members prepare to enter adult society they should be aware that government and citizen participation in setting objectives for land use, and designing measures to achieve these objectives, are essential elements of land use policy. The demonstrated broad interest in environmental improvement, which directly touches on many land use decisions, is evidence of growing public concern about the adequacy of our land and water resources to meet increasing needs. Decisions made now about the way land and water resources are developed and used will affect their own well-being and that of future generations.

Major uses of land in the 48 states: historic and projected, 1949-2000

Land Use	Historic		Projected	
	1949	1969	1980	2000
	Million acres			
Cropland used for crops	387	333	320	298
Cropland harvested	(352)	(286)	(292)	(272)
Forest and woodland	601	603	591	578
Pasture, range, and other agricultural land	768	767	771	782
Urban and related	42	60	66	81
Other special uses and miscellaneous uses	106	134	149	158
Total land area	1,904	1,897	1,897	1,897

Correspond with Other Secretaries —Do We?

By Dennis Engelke

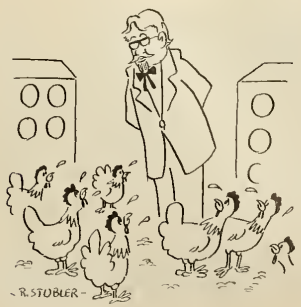
One of the basic aims of the FFA organization is to provide agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship. Yet, a fundamental weakness of FFA chapters is their lack of cooperation with other chapters. Do we really "correspond with other secretaries?"

The answer to this question is probably no. Proposed changes in the FFA have been points of controversy throughout chapters across the nation. Discussions at national and state conventions have ranged in results from unanimous decision to bitter disagreements among delegates. Do you know how the proposed changes would affect your state and local organizations?

Sharing ideas with others is what cooperation is all about. Find out why a particular chapter opposes or supports an issue. You may find some information which sheds a new light on the subject. Getting to know the facts leads to more rational decision making.

Writing to other chapters can provide ideas on new chapter activities. National and state FFA publications are full of stories describing activities of top FFA chapters in the nation. The Minnesota State FFA Association collects rainfall data from across the state. An FFA chapter in Texas sponsors a high school rodeo. New York FFA'ers established a Floriculture Club. Camping in the mountains is a top activity of Idaho Future Farmers. How do these functions get organized? By corresponding with other secretaries, answers to these questions can be found.

Too many times we neglect one of our greatest resources of information—each other. Only through greater cooperative efforts can the Future Farmers of America Organization truly "reach from the state of Washington to Puerto Rico and from Maine to Hawaii."



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Arizona State University, Tempe 85281
Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff 86001

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University of Arkansas at Monticello, Monticello 71655

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California State University, San Jose 95114
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena 91109
California State University, San Diego 92115
California State University, San Francisco 94132
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles 90045
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University of Southern California, Los Angeles 90007
University of California, Berkeley 94720

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University of Miami, P.O. Box 8164, Coral Gables 33124

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Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta 30332
Valdosta State College, Valdosta 31601

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IDAHO
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Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Edwardsville 62025
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University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame 46556
University of Evansville, Evansville 47701

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University of Iowa, Iowa City 52242
Drake University, Des Moines 50311

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Duquesne University, Pittsburgh 15219
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Allegheny College, Meadville 16335
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Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre 18703
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University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras 00931

SOUTH CAROLINA
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The Citadel, Charleston 29409
Clemson University, Clemson 29631
University of South Carolina, Columbia 29208
Newberry College, Newberry 29108

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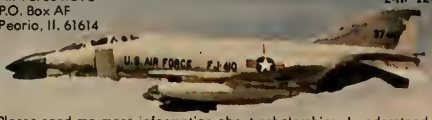

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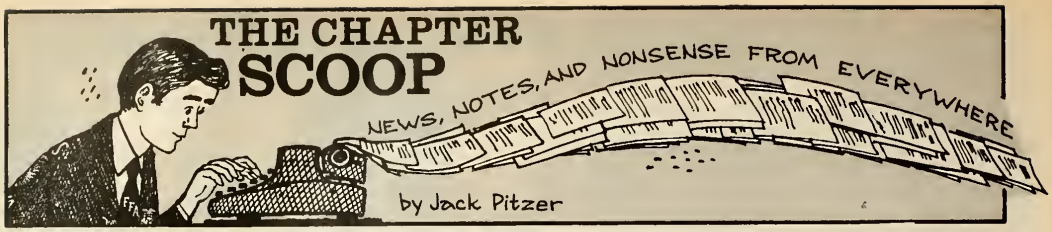


Chowchilla, California, member **Glenn Stickles** showed the champion heifer, reserve champ bull and reserve champ market hog at state fair.

N-N-N

And **Diana Santoro,** *Chatsworth,* California, collected three grand champ ribbons at the FFA fair. For the Hereford steer, Suffolk lamb and Chester Cross gilt.

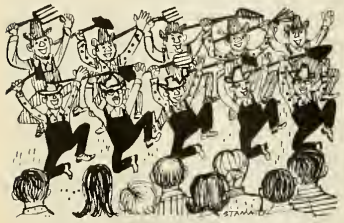
N-N-N

No long speeches at *Ringwood,* Oklahoma, banquet. Instead of hog calling, Greenhand singing, and a skit by livestock team.

N-N-N

The *Bloomfield,* New Mexico, FFA Aggie Award rotates each year to hardest working member of chapter.

N-N-N



Ledyard, Connecticut, FFA provided a farmer cheerleading act at state convention to demonstrate FFA enthusiasm.

N-N-N

Mike Macy of *Fife* couldn't attend Washington FFA Convention to get his State Farmer degree in person because of his duties as Senator Magnuson's page in th U.S. Senate.

N-N-N

A tug-of-war was sponsored by *West Bend,* Iowa, on July Fourth. Losing team was sprayed by the local fire department.

N-N-N

Six *Sycamore,* Illinois, FFA'ers earned American Farmer degrees this year.

N-N-N

Neil Burgess of New Zealand is guest on a sheep ranch near *Enterprise,* Oregon, Chapter. Part of Organization's Work Experience Abroad program.

N-N-N

Swap night at *Cedar Springs,* Michigan, Chapter meeting is when everyone brings things to swap.

N-N-N

Thousands of new members are getting the Scoop now. Greenhands coming into FFA. For example, *Gillette,* Wyoming, took in 27.

N-N-N

Weed exhibit of *Sandpoint,* Idaho, was top educational exhibit at county fair.

Lacassine, Louisiana, Chapter members found lots of opportunity to serve their community in cleaning up after Hurricane Carmen.

N-N-N

Lisa Fuller, Dave McLenachen, and **Paul Thomas** of *Toledo,* Washington, FFA worked at Expo '74.

N-N-N

Members of *Andrew Jackson,* South Carolina, FFA interested in pulpwood toured a local plant.

N-N-N

President of *Bowling Green,* Ohio, attended a regional FFA presidents' meeting and brought back lots of ideas.

N-N-N

Monroe, Indiana, Chapter requested a second FFA Calendar kit because they lost the first when a tornado destroyed their school.

N-N-N

Top this. Greenhands of *Garretson,* South Dakota, FFA counted 304 seeds in a single pod of a common milkweed.

N-N-N

Orrick, Missouri, put up a 12 x 7 foot sign outside town to welcome folks.

N-N-N

Faribault, Minnesota, members release 350 day-old pheasants into area.

N-N-N

Do FFA members in your school set the trend for decent dress? And not just during FFA WEEK?

N-N-N

Mike Weimer, *Catoctin,* Maryland, won a cowbell and a pewter pitcher for top individual Brown Swiss and Holstein judging at Eastern States Expo.

N-N-N

David Staaby won tractor operation and safety contest sponsored by his chapter, *Conrad Weiser,* Pennsylvania.

N-N-N

Peninsula, Washington, began awards night with special contests for parents. Moms had to identify shop tools and Dads, kitchen utensils.

N-N-N

Burns, Wyoming, reporter dispatched a good news release before members went to National Convention.

N-N-N

Two new courses in vo-ag for *Livermore,* California, members are butchering and wildlife.

N-N-N

Brighton, Colorado, made a new sidewalk for visiting football teams to use.

N-N-N

Culbertson, Montana, planted energized grain and non-energized grain to see the difference in the plants.

N-N-N

Money for *Bryan Station,* Kentucky, FFA comes off of five acres of tobacco.

American Farmer degree winner **Nicky Chaney** of *Sevierville,* Tennessee, was named Outstanding Young Farmer by the Jaycees in his county.

N-N-N

Members of *Osage,* Iowa, Chapter have been helping with a project to fight Dutch Elm disease in their town.

N-N-N

When Greenhands of *Albuquerque,* New Mexico, found out Chapter Farmers hadn't been initiated during the Greenhand year, they voted to do something about it. And they did!

N-N-N

Magruder, Maryland, Chapter planned an energy seminar for their school.

N-N-N

Union FFA in New Castle, Pennsylvania, had a square dance exhibition and a demonstration of "cow power" (?) in their town during FFA WEEK.

N-N-N

Has your chapter public relations committee begun plans for celebrating FFA WEEK, February 15-22. The theme is "FFA a chance for GROWTH."

N-N-N

Prague, Nebraska, beat *Mead,* Nebraska, 33-18 in slop softball. "But they got to warm up!" reports **Steve Miller** of Mead.

N-N-N

Greenhands and nonmembers of FFA were guests of the *Gilbert,* Arizona, Chapter at a special party.

N-N-N

Believe it or not! *Los Banos,* California, Chapter had a meal of wood grubs on a hiking trip into the Sierras.

N-N-N

During *El Capitan,* California, Chapter's project tour, **Karen** and **Karla Clarks** showed fellow members their dairy projects including dairy goats.

N-N-N

Part of a safety display by *Carroll,* Ohio, FFA was an overturned tractor. Display was set up at a local co-op.

N-N-N

Chapters looking for new ideas read Scoop. Share your ideas with other active chapters across the nation.

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Climb A Mountain

Associate Editor Gary Bye tells of his climb and says, "Adventure awaits anyone—even the novice—with a desire to get to the top."

A FRIEND and I had planned the climb as a last-fling adventure to wind up the summer. Now as I sat shivering in the chill morning wind, clutching my ice ax I wondered why I hadn't found some good reason to stay home. This was Mt. Rainier, standing higher than any other peak in the Cascade Range, and our goal was the summit, 14,410 feet above sea level.

Our party of 26 climbers and guides had just reached 12,400 feet after successfully scaling Disappointment Clever, aptly named for the 1,000-foot wall of ice and loose rock that rises almost straight up. "The worst is behind us now," puffed head climber, Gary Issacs, obviously trying to raise our spirits. As the last rope team reached our rest stop the sounds of heavy breathing cut the air even above the chilling wind.

We huddled together, ropes coiled, gulping in precious oxygen. At this altitude the air contained less than half of the oxygen of that at sea level. The thin air could strip a climber of his coordination and strength. Already we had been forced to leave behind one weakened climber wrapped in a sleeping bag thousands of feet below. Everyone suspected a few more would probably not reach the top and each climber hoped that it would not be him.

We were not experienced climbers. When we introduced ourselves earlier, we found our occupations ranged from medical student to truck driver. Our brief schooling in climbing technique had taken place a few days before. We were taught how to self-arrest when falling—a practice we hoped we wouldn't have to use under actual circumstances. We became familiar with crampons, those claw-like devices we clamped to the bottom of our boots to prevent sudden slipping. We practiced climbing in rope teams of six persons tied together on a 120-foot rope. And we were shown how to force breathe and rest-step properly. The practice meant coordinating deep breathing with a climbing step in which the back knee is locked with each step. It had seemed so elementary in practice. Now it seemed critical. But we remembered our instructor saying, "If you breathe correctly, you will be sitting on the summit with me."

The day after that brief training we had met our guides who checked our packs for the necessities. The climb required high energy food, water, wool clothing, headlamps, ice axes, crampons, and other essential items. After a quick pep talk we began the seven-hour climb to Camp Muir, our base camp perched amid the rocks and rubble overlooking Cowlitz Glacier.

"Bring 'em all back this time, will ya!" kidded Lou Whitiker, head of the guide service as we departed. We all forced a laugh.

When we arrived at Muir the wind was gusting close to 50 miles per hour. We heard a helicopter in the distance and later learned it was a daring attempt to rescue three injured climbers who had fallen helplessly into a 50-foot crevass. The flapping sound of the helicopter added to everyone's growing apprehension. A few individuals in our group had grown nauseous from the day's exertion.

The next blow was struck by Isaacs. "We might have to cancel if the wind doesn't ease," he warned the group now crammed tightly into our rugged little sleeping hut. The announcement cast a gloom over the anxious group.

When we were awakened just after midnight, however, it was to good news. "To the top!" the wake-up man cried. We dressed, ate and packed in the dark.

Rope team reaches Mt. Rainier summit crater and pauses for the breathtaking view that stretches out before them.

Bye (left) and fellow climbers pose for photo against sea of clouds after reaching base camp at Camp Muir.

One hour later the twinkling string of headlamps was ascending into the darkness. As we climbed our lamps illuminated the bottomless blue crevasses that we carefully maneuvered over and around.

Those first few hours of morning were spent picking our way along narrow ledges through scattered rock fields. Occasionally a misguided crampon would send a rock clattering down the cliff. Seldom was there time to enjoy the breathtaking landscape that fell away at our feet. Everyone's concentration was on staying on his feet.

Finally we had reached the rest stop. As we sat sheltered against the wind the sun slowing transformed our mountain into a brilliant white jewel. An awesome and rugged beauty surrounded us. Soon we were climbing again and as we approached a sharp corner of the mountain wall our team leader's voice shouted back, "The wind up there will blow right through you!" He was right.

As the climber I followed stepped out from the cover of the wall, a savage blast of wind knocked him to his knees and sent him sprawling. Our team immediately flattened itself, ice axes and crampons tensely clutching the snow. The sliding climber jerked to a halt. Below us a waiting crevass gaped open. We cautiously regained our footing and from our new position on the mountain the summit was barely visible, three hours of steady climbing away.

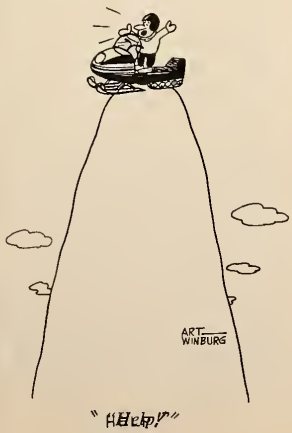
As we began the final ascent the wind peppered our bare cheeks with stinging ice crystals. Near the top, each step—sometimes no more than six inches apart—required three or four frantic breaths to recover the precious oxygen. But always our leader pushed on relentlessly, tugging at the rope. Three more exhausted climbers were left behind. My rope team now had long intervals between climbers. Finally the boulder strewn crater rim was only feet away. But it took every last bit of reserved strength to conquer those final few feet. One by one we coiled in our ropes. The crater, seeping faint fumes of sulfur, stretched out in front of us. We'd made it to the top.

A mild celebration broke loose. One man planted a miniature flag. Another dug a frisbee from his pack and tossed it into the wind. Each guide congratulated the members of his own team.

But soon the handshaking and picture taking ended as we prepared for the descent. The guides were anxious to get down aware that the mid-day sun was rapidly melting the snow bridges we had crossed. When frozen, the bridges could hold a truck. When soft, they could crumble beneath a man sending him to the bottom of a crevass big enough to swallow a house. And we were warned as we started down that the descent was the most dangerous part of our climb, due to tired legs and relaxed minds.

Hours later our tired but elated group reached the Mt. Rainier Tourist Center at Paradise Lodge where we stepped lively through the crowd of sightseers and tourists. At the guide headquarters, each wearied climber signed the summit register with a tinge of pride from his personal accomplishment.

Our summer adventure had come to an end, and as my friend and I drove down the mountain road that wound its way to the city, we knew our lives had changed. We were just two of the many that venture to the summit each year. We had seen the top, yet we were leaving with a deeper respect for the challenge of the mountain.



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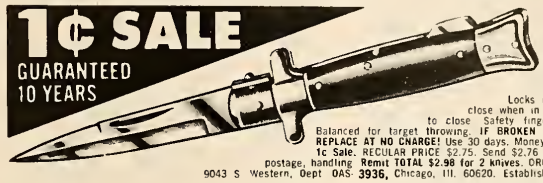

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Tent Cards for use on tables and counters of restaurants, drug stores, banks or feed stores to call attention to FFA WEEK at the point of purchase. Printed on both sides including copy about FFA and vo-ag. Price: 25 for 50 cents.

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FFA in Action

COMMUNITY'S AGRICULTURE

Catfish Farm

The Dos Palos, California, Chapter started a catfish farm when the town's water reservoir was moved to a new spot and the school bought the old property. The reservoir would have cost $10,000 to fill in with dirt, so the chapter offered an alternative; they could put in a catfish farm for about $2,500. The school board approved the project and the citizens living near the site gave their consent.

The initial work was of two types. The two farm management classes were assigned to clean up the weeds around the reservoir, and the two shop classes removed some of the cement from the bottom of the two ponds.

The next step was to acquire a license from the state. For this purpose they dealt with the Soil Conservation Service, Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife, and the University of California at Davis.

Then with funds released, they purchased some necessary equipment. This included a catfish seine (net) for $300, a dissolved oxygen tester ($30), an ammonia nitrogen test kit ($18), a PH tester ($18), and other miscellaneous supplies such as thermometers, seine needles, catfish dip net, agitator, transport tank, waders, plastic bags, steel fencing, electric pump, sprinklers, plastic pipe, irrigation pump, and hardness testers.

Finally they were ready to add the fish. Arrangements were made with Mr. George Hollbrook of Los Banos, California, for delivery of the catfish. These fingerlings cost 2 cents per inch at an average of eight inches. FFA received 1,500 channel catfish on May 22, 1974. The type of feed they are using, Albers' Catfish Chow, costs $6.50 for 50 pounds.

Channel catfish fingerlings go into one of the ponds rebuilt by the FFA

The Dos Palos FFA is very proud of their project. Although there have been some difficulties they feel they have learned a great deal from this project. And, they stand to make about $1.27 per catfish (*Michael Mello*)

Comparison Testing

The Jackson, Minnesota, FFA Chapter's advanced livestock class has an interesting new project.

The project is designed as a test station to compare the economics of production of each of the three grades of pigs sold by the Wisconsin Feeder Pig Marketing Co-op. These will then be compared with the production of each of the three grades of pigs sold by the Wisconsin Feeder Pig Marketing Co-op. These will then be compared with the production data on feeder pigs from a local southern Minnesota pig producer (Lyndon Olson, Worthington).

"We are keeping records such as rate of gain, feed efficiency, body type, backfat probe, structural soundness, and loin-eye scan on the four groups of live hogs (10 per group).

"We plan to have a large adult and FFA field day when the pigs reach market weight. All pigs will then be slaughtered by Hormel and cut-out data obtained. This will enable us to compare the economics of the four groups of hogs." (*Daniel Jones, Project Chairman*)

ALUMNI

"The Second 'Lifer' "

Owasso, the second "Life Member Affilate", was chartered by the National Alumni Association October 7 at Owasso, Oklahoma.

Plan for FFA WEEK

FFA efforts at chapter, state, and national levels in 1975 will rally around the theme "FFA a chance for GROWTH."

Kickoff point for using this theme for most local chapters will be during National FFA WEEK—February 15-22. This theme was already introduced at the past National FFA Convention.

The purpose of a national FFA theme and particularly a National FFA WEEK celebration is to provide chapters an opportunity to get additional publicity or public awareness for their vocational agriculture and FFA programs.

Every week can be an FFA WEEK and hopefully chapters will continue throughout the year to stress their involvement in agriculture, involvement in leadership training, involvement in working together cooperatively, and involvement in preparing for future careers. The WEEK comes in February around George Washington's traditional birthday celebration.

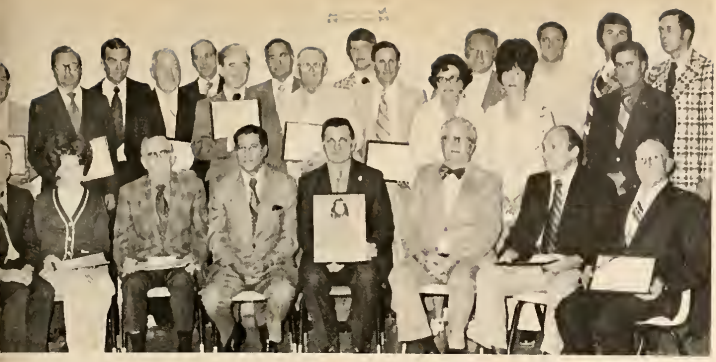
Promotional materials have been developed by *The National FUTURE FARMER* to aid chapters in conducting effective programs during the WEEK. They are available from the FFA Supply Service catalog.

FFA WEEK materials include the traditional outdoor billboards, posters, placemats, program leaflets, TV slides, seals, pocket notebooks, envelope stuffers, vinyl litterbags, bumper strips, pens, radio spots, name badges, and a bulletin board kit. A new item for 1975 is a counter top tent card.

Some items do not have a date or mention of FFA WEEK and they are particularly useful all year.

An order brochure and order forms were mailed to all local chapters. A How-To-Do-It and Idea Packet was included. The packet gives detailed information about the best way to use WEEK materials and get publicity. It has sections on press, radio, TV, sample scripts, and other ideas. It also includes ideas that have worked for other chapters. PLUS a clip sheet for use in newspapers and a FREE poster.

Send any requests for further information, requests if your chapter has not received ordering materials, or any ideas your chapter would like to share to: FFA WEEK Activities, *The National FUTURE FARMER*, P.O. Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. Plan for the nationwide celebration.



In Owasso, Oklahoma, supporters of the local FFA chapter organized a local FFA Alumni Affiliate and became the second all life member affiliate to be chartered.

The 40 new members heard comments from Joe Raunikar, Northeast District Supervisor; Ralph Dressen, State FFA Advisor; and Paul Newlin, State FFA Executive Secretary, all from Stillwater, Oklahoma. Present also were Herb Karner, Tulsa World farm editor, and Mike Kastl, Oklahoma FFA Alumni President, Oklahoma City.

On hand to present membership certificates and membership cards was Jay Benham, Administrative Secretary of the National FFA Alumni Association.

Newly elected officers of the Owasso FFA Alumni Association are D. M. Sokolosky, President; Earl Messner, Vice President; Dr. Perry W. Evans, Secretary; and Walter Thiessen, Treasurer. (*Noble Sokolosky, Reporter*)

BEAUTIFICATION

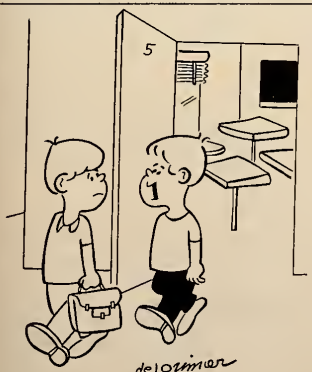
Walk Builders

This past spring at Redwood, California, the sophomore agricultural mechanics class prepared and poured 150 feet of sidewalk around the Ornamental Horticulture building.

The pouring of the sidewalk climaxed a month of studying concrete. The sidewalk was built because of the tremendous problem of mud in the ornamental horticulture area when it rains.

This was one of the major highlights of this year for the agricultural mechanics class, and should provide good service for years to come. (*Russ Bassett, Reporter*)

It was genuine doing by learning for the members who poured the new walk.



"I guess I should go into farming. The teacher said the inside of my desk looks like a pig pen."

Work, Study, Play

The Ross FFA Chapter in Hamilton, Ohio, had six members and the advisor attend Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum in July. Camp Muskingum is located on Leesville Lake near Carrollton, Ohio.

There were 288 FFA members from all over the state of Ohio attending this session. Three state officers were present to provide leadership and inspiration.

During the week there were sessions to attend on subjects such as forestry, hunter safety, fishing, trapping, surveying, air and water control, and "Motivation Management and You."

There were sports of all types: swimming, boating, canoeing, fly fishing, archery, rifle, shotgun, horsehoes, shuffleboard, crafts, table tennis, handball, raquet ball, basketball, volleyball, baseball, tetherball, and square dancing.

But the program was not all play. The advanced campers spent a day on

(Continued on Page 50)

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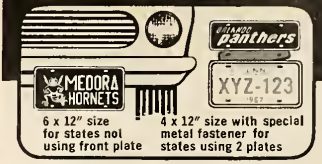

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Three chapters were honored for their service for handicapped in Minnesota.

FFA in Action

(Continued from Page 49)

the FFA farm cleaning up and improving the 160-acre farm to keep it in good shape. The farm is called the "Environmental Education Center." Some of the activities in effect on the farm are a beef cattle management operation, strip cropping no-till corn and timothy, wild life refuges, and a new pond.

A major goal of the Ross FFA is to get more members involved in camp and return again next year. (*Alana Loos, Reporter*)

SERVICE

Camp Contributors

Minnesota FFA Chapters have been doing their part to help the handicapped in their state get more out of life.

For 21 years, FFA in Minnesota has sponsored a Corn Drive for Camp Courage. This camp is operated by the Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc. (MiSCCA).

Help from FFA has helped finance the construction of the Speech and Hearing Center plus some equipping of it. Also they have sponsored special programs like radio camps, "camperships," a horticulture program, and last year a film about the story of MiSCCA as told by the campers themselves.

Three chapters, Faribault, Montgomery and Waterville-Elysian, were recognized this year by MiSCCA head W. B. Schoenbohm for joining the ranks of chapters raising $1,000 or more in one drive in their community.

Pond Safety

"Is your pond a safety hazard?" "Have there been pond drownings in your county?"

When the Westerville, Ohio, Safety Committee got "Yes" to these questions, they were prompted to action.

They began to campaign to promote pond safety within the Westerville school district. Safety Committee members have installed 13 safety posts for area pond owners and are still receiving requests for safety assistance.

The safety materials are furnished by the FFA to the pond or lake owner and consist of a treated 4 x 4 post with instructions for mouth to mouth respiration, a 25-foot rope with an attached life ring, and a 10-foot reaching pole.

These posts have been well received by area pond owners and all feel that the safety post adds to their peace of mind. The posts are maintained and lost or deteriorating equipment is replaced annually by the Westerville Chapter. (*Roger Pickering, Advisor*)

Safety chairman Chris Farley, left, and president Dave Ceneskie, middle, erected a safety pole beside the farm pond of former advisor Glenn Griffith.

FOR FUN

Wood Chips

Let the chips fall where they may was a theme for the Sierra FFA in Tollhouse, California, when they held their annual early fall woodcut in the Sierra National Forest.

They cut, split and loaded 25 cords of wood into trucks. The wood will be sold in the local area to help finance chapter activities and the showing of livestock at fairs and shows throughout the year.

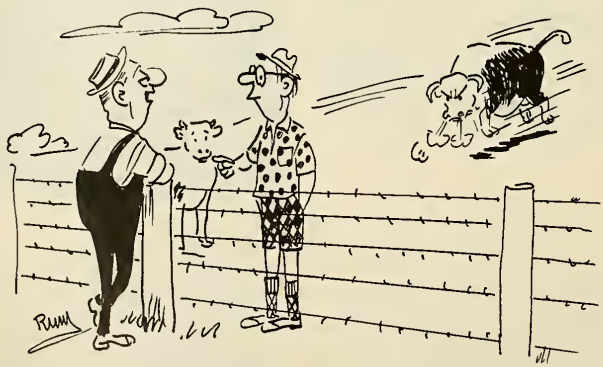
This is a two-day activity and there is a lot of fun and work for the members. It is also one of the requirements to participate in this project in order to show animals. (*Clint Price, Reporter*)

Ready Riders

The Belt Valley FFA members in Belt, Montana, work hard at the yearly chapter activities but each member especially looks forward to the annual pack trip in June.

Each spring near the end of school, members start planning their four day trip. Committees are set up for food, transportation, equipment and horses. Everyone contributes their part in supplying necessary items. Some of these include: tents, rope, axes, pack horses,

Cartoon Caption Contest



Contest Rules

Ever try to caption a cartoon? Here is your chance. Just find a caption for this cartoon in this issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER*. You must clip the word or words you choose, paste on a postcard, and give the page number from which you clipped the caption. Your caption may consist of as many **consecutive** words or lines as you think necessary. In case of duplicates, the one with the earliest postmark will be considered. Entries will be judged by the staff of *The National FUTURE FARMER* and their decision is final. Contest closes December 20, 1974. Winners will be announced in the February-March, 1975, issue.

Prizes: First $15.00, Second $10.00 Third $5.00, plus eight honorable mention prizes of a binder to hold your copies of *The National FUTURE FARMER*.

Send entries to Cartoon Caption Contest, *The National FUTURE FARMER*, Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

Get your entry in right away.

Riders are ready to take off on their annual FFA trek through the mountains.

pack saddles, panner boxes, griddles and food. In addition to the above items each member must be responsible for his own personal items. These include: horse, saddle gear, rain gear, sleeping bag, fishing pole or line, eating utensils, clothing and personal hygiene items. One or two days before the trip, everyone meets for final instructions by Advisor Alden Irish. Safety, camp duties, and care of equipment and gear are discussed. Also at this time a starting time and meeting place are selected.

This year 15 members, 3 chaperones and 22 horses met at Rod Larson's ranch for consolidation of horses and equipment into three stock trucks and two pick-ups. From here the group drove to the McCafferty-Sederholm ranch in Belt Park of the Little Belt Mountains.

Horses were saddled and packed with food and gear in a most organized disorderly fashion. Many small crises came and went quickly as horses, strange to each other, met for the first time and a new pack horse or two had to be "settled down". Help from parents and chaperones thankfully prevented any serious mishaps.

Once on the trail, about five hours were needed to reach camp on Pilgrim Creek. This included a stop for lunch and several stops to adjust and tighten packs. While riding, members saw three elk and numerous deer. Clear streams, snow-capped mountains and the smell of fir and pine added to the enjoyment of a mountain trail. Snowdrifts were encountered from the past winter at the pass between Belt Park and Pilgrim Creek.

At camp, everyone pitched in to help set up tents, unpack food, cut firewood and lay out bedrolls. Activities during the stay at camp included fishing, hiking, trail riding, touch football, "heeling" each other, campfire visiting and eating. Greenhands took turns with the dishes and other camp chores while nearly everyone took his turn with the axe. During outings from camp, members saw elk, deer, bear and old mine shafts.

On the morning of the fourth day, a rain shower slowed down camp breaking but didn't seem to dampen spirits any. Back at the McCafferty-Sederholm ranch that afternoon, FFA members headed home, tired but full of memories each could treasure during the coming summer and school year.

CONTEST AND COMPETITION

A Horse Team

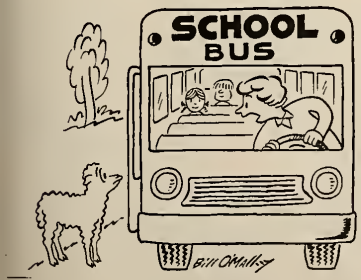
This team of FFA members did well in competitions against 21 other teams.

An all girl team from Lancaster, Ohio, placed first in the State FFA Horse Judging Contest held in July at the Ohio State University horse barns. Members from the Lancaster Chapter were Nancy Musser, 16, Debbie Hoelscher, 16, and Sandy Delong, 15.

The team members judged three classes of quarter horses of which two were halter and one performance. They finished well ahead of the other 21 teams and 72 individuals in the competition.

The Lancaster girls will compete in the National Arabian Horse Judging contest at Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the Ohio team. The event is co-sponsored by the American Arabian Association and Arabian horses will be judged.

Trainers or coaches for the team were Mrs. Sally Weiland and Advisor James Papritan.



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The other night at a local art exhibit I saw a farmer walk up to one abstract picture and look at it from all angles. Finally, he told his wife he wanted to buy it. When she asked why, he said, *"It's the best darned picture of the farm situation I have ever seen. No matter how you look at it, it doesn't make sense."*

Noble Sokolosky
Owasso, Oklahoma

Mom: *"Henry, please answer the door."*
Henry: *"Hello, door.*

Pattie Park
Coffman, Arkansas

"Cluck! Cluck! Cluck!"

Satan challenged the Lord to a baseball game.

Lord: *"How can you win? We have all the good baseball players up here."*
Satan: *"How can we lose? We have all the good umpires down here."*

Kenny Hanf
Denair, California

The teacher was giving her third graders a lesson in association and said to the class, *"Now try to picture this scene: The man is on the riverbank, slips and falls into the river. While he is thrashing about in the water, his wife, hearing his screams and knowing he cannot swim, rushes to the bank! Now, why does she rush to the bank?"*

From the rear of the room, a little voice asked, *"To draw out his insurance money?"*

Thomas LaMance
Phoenix, Arizona

Nancy: *"Why would a frog make a good car?"*
Rusty: *"I don't know, why?"*
Nancy: *"Because if the battery went dead it would be easy to jump."*

Glenn Secrist
Cordova, Maryland

Father to teenage son, *"I'm tired of arguing with you about using the car. Next time I want it I'm going to take it."*

Mike Wheeler
Mt. Olivet, Kentucky

Randy: *"Mom, will you do my math for me tonight?"*
Mom: *"No, it wouldn't be right."*
Randy: *"Well, you could try."*

Shirley Koperski
St. Paul, Nebraska

A Boy Scout being examined for advancement from Tenderfoot to Second Class was asked to explain the mouth-to-mouth method of artificial respiration. *"Well,"* he said, *"first you take one hand and hold the victim's nose. Then with your other hand you open his mouth and remove his bubble gum."*

Susan Keith
Centerville, Ohio

"I can't marry you—we are intellectual opposites."
"Why, what do you mean?"
"I'm intellectual and you're not!"

Ken Lycett
Grants Pass, Oregon

A farmer and his wife went to a fair. The farmer was fascinated by the airplanes and finally asked a pilot how much a ride cost.

"Ten dollars for three minutes," the pilot said. *"But I'll make you a deal. If you and your wife can ride without making a sound, it will cost nothing. But if you say one word, you have to pay ten dollars."*

"Agreed," said the farmer. They went for the ride and after the pilot landed, he said, *"I want to congratulate you for not making a sound. You are a very brave man."*

"Maybe so," said the farmer, *"but I almost yelled when my wife fell out."*

Pedro Masiel
Strathmore, California

Two businessmen talking; *"Is your advertising getting results?"*

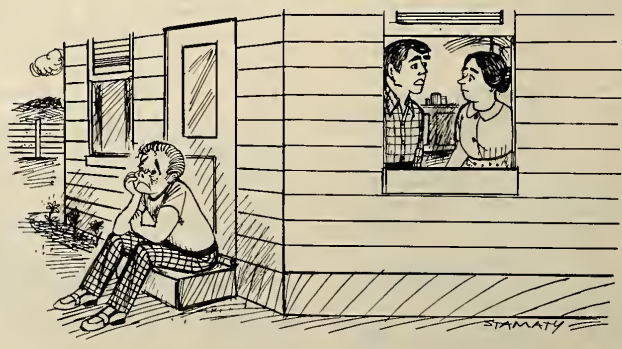
"It surely is," moaned the second man. *"Last week we advertised for a night watchman and the next night we were robbed!"*

Sgt. Alan J. Lirette
Albany, Georgia

A city slicker reporter was interviewing a 99-year-old hillbilly farmer. *"I hope I can return to see you on your 100th birthday,"* said the reporter. *"Don't see why not, young feller, you look healthy enough to me,"* the old timer replied.

Wesley Thorn
Carthage, Missouri

Charlie, the Greenhand



"He asked a girl he doesn't like to the FFA holiday dance while under the influence of her delicious submarine sandwiches."

The National FUTURE FARMER *will pay $1.00 for each joke selected for publication on this page. Jokes must be submitted on post cards addressed to* The National FUTURE FARMER, *Alexandria, Virginia 22309. In case of duplication, payment will be for the first one received. Contributions cannot be acknowledged or returned.*

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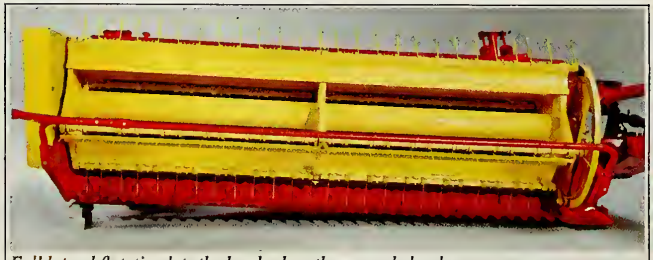

Full lateral flotation lets the header hug the ground closely.

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